The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter September 16, 1914, at the postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 6. NO. 30. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1916 WHOLE NO. 290.

STATEMENT BY LABOR REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE

To the Officers of all Organized Labor:

Greeting: Never at any time within the last fifty years have the workers had more at stake in any political campaign than in the one that is to be decided in the election November 7.

During the present administration and particularly in this campaign there has been developed a clear-cut issue between the workers—the producers—and those who manipulate the products of the labor of others—the exploiters.

The issue is represented in the campaign by the conflicting interests represented by Labor and Wall street. Labor represents the masses of the nation, their rights as human beings, the possibilities and the ideals of human development. Wall street represents the powers of greed and exploitation that have mercilessly used human beings in order to pile up vast unearned fortunes and to carry out their purposes of restricting the rights and opportunities for men to work and enjoy the products of their toil.

During the present administration the organized labor movement has been able to secure recognition for the rights of human beings and opportunity for all to participate in the affairs of the nation in a degree that has never before been accomplished.

The dignity of human life and the value of the co-operation of those whose work are necessary to the processes of industry and commerce have been given an important place in considering all problems that concern the nation. This recognition has taken the form of legislation necessary to protect the interests of wage-earners and in the ideals of humanity that have guided and directed national policies both at home and in our relations with other nations.

Though half of the world has been involved in a terrific conflict and it seemed at times as though our nation must be drawn into the vortex of human slaughter, yet the chief executive of our land has been able to manage the affairs of the nation and the interests of our citizens so that without the horrors of war he has established and maintained protection of human life and human rights in the somewhat vague domain of international law. Without involving this nation in war, he has secured for us all of the protection and all of the benefits that would have accrued from a successful international war, and by diplomatic correspondence, has achieved the victory of upholding concepts of humanity in international activity, at least in so far as America is concerned.

What has been true in the case of the European war is also true in the case with the relations between our country and Mexico. Mexico had been engaged in a convulsive effort to secure freedom and to shake off the despotic control of personal rule and spoilation to benefit those who have been granted special privileges. In their vague uncertain efforts to free themselves the people of Mexico may have made mistakes. Have the people of the United States always been free from error? Mexico is trying to work out its ideals of rights and justice.

The interests that have been seeking to plunge our country into war not only with European countries but also with Mexico are the interests that are represented by the most selfish and most conscienceless element of Wall street. These elements have not stopped with an effort to create existing mistakes and wrongs as an excuse for war and have not hesitated to endeavor to create situations that brought the nation to the very brink of war. It was only by the determined resistance of the citizens who understood that an element of reasonableness was injected into the situation and action prevented until the true facts could be discovered and the will of the masses of the citizens could prevent the evil purposes and designs.

So far as the internal affairs of our country are concerned, the organized labor movement, as the authorized representative of the wage-earners, has demanded for them the right of participation in all the affairs of the nation and has secured recognition of that demand to a degree never before realized. Men from among those who do the nation's work have occupied high places in the councils of the nation and have had a hearing and an influence when matters were under consideration that affected the interests and the welfare of the masses.

During the past four years there has been enacted by congress and signed by President Wilson humanitarian protective legislation unprecedented in amount and scope. Legislative enactment has secured to wage-earners fundamental rights necessary for the very existence of the organizations of labor without which wage-earners would have nothing of freedom and no real opportunity for self-betterment. Not only have labor organizations been given the right to exist but the activities necessary to make those organizations effective have been declared legitimate and not contrary to any law of the United States.

The American seamen, the last group of workers who could under law be compelled to perform compulsory service, have been made free men and given the right to quit their ships when in safe harbors.

After many years of effort a child labor law has been secured, due directly to the influence and intervention of President Wilson. The law is fundamental, for it protects the children—the future citizens of the country—and secures for them an opportunity to develop into manhood and womanhood without being stunted and dwarfed in mind and body by work unsuited to their development and strength.

Due to the initiative of President Wilson, the congress extended the United States eight-hour law to include the workmen engaged in the operation of the railroad train service of the country and a great national strike was thus averted.

It is impossible to give the full list of remedial and protective legislation that carries its benefi-cent influences into the homes of millions of America's workers. We can only refer to that change in the spirit of the nation that is of more consequence than statutory enactment, with broader appreciation of the rights of humanity and the value of the human relationships necessary in the co-ordination which is the basis for industry and commerce. It is as if the national thought and the national spirit had been humanized and had become more sensitive not only to injustice but to the rights and opportunities that ought to be accorded to all human beings. The issue is clear-cut.

On November 7th—election day—a decision will be made which will determine the future development of our country and the spirit of our national life for years to come.

As representatives of the organized labor movement, which is the militant protective organization of all the workers and which stands primarily for human rights, WE URGE THAT THE ISSUES BE CONSIDERED AT A REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING HELD BY YOUR ORGANIZATION.

The meeting should be a general one, and, if necessary, called specially for the purpose of seeing that those who have so much at stake should go to the polls to protect their interests.

There is no doubt that the interests of Wall street and their satellites all over the country are and will continue their activity to retain the special privileges and power that they have secretively and corruptly stolen from the people.

While property must be protected and respected, man—men, women and children, human beings—must have the first consideration.

Wage-earners can not afford to lose their rights and opportunities through negligence and inaction.

Meet, discuss the great issues to be decided on election day, November 7th, and then go to the polls, cast your vote as your conscience directs for Labor, justice, freedom and humanity.

Fraternally yours,

Sam'l Gompers.

President, A. F. of L.

Jno. O'Connell

Vice-President, A. F. of L.

Frank Morrison

Secretary, A. F. of L.

Labor Representation Committee,
American Federation of Labor.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 14, 1916.

Labor's Political Success Based on Non-Partisanship

The Labor Representation Committee, consisting of President Gompers, Vice President O'Connell and Secretary Morrison of the A. F. of L., has issued a call to organized labor to consider the issues involved in the present political campaign at a regular or special meeting of their unions, and urges that all workers go to the polls on election day, November 7, and protect their interests.

The Labor Representation Committee was appointed by the executive council of the A. F. of L. in 1906, when the American Federation of Labor decided to more vigorously urge its nonpartisan political policy—that trade unionists disregard political lines and reward their friends and punish their enemies.

The success of this policy has been unequaled in the history of the world's trade union movement and the Labor Representation Committee, following its usual policy, presents the issues involved in this campaign and calls on all workers to go to the polls on November 7 and vote as their conscience directs for labor, justice, freedom and humanity.

"The American labor movement is not partisan to a political party; it is partisan to a principle, the principle of equal rights and human freedom."—Denver convention of the A. F. of L., 1908.

BRICKLAYERS ARE IN LINE

Washington, Oct. 21.—The American Federation of Labor has issued a charter to the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America.

While an agitation for affiliation has been conducted for years among the bricklayers, definite action was taken at their recent convention, held in Toronto, Canada, when the international executives were empowered to act.

In the charter application, signed by President Bowen and Secretary Dobson, it is stated that there are 912 local unions, with a membership of 70,000, affiliated to this international.

In a telegram to President Bowen of the bricklayers, dated October 12, President Gompers says:

"The charter for your international union has been issued today. I welcome your organization into the family of trade unions of America under the banner of the American Federation of Labor."

The A. F. of L. executive supplemented these fraternal expressions with a letter in which he said, in part:

"It is gratifying beyond measure to know that due to the efforts of many of us continued over a long period of years that your International union has finally come into the family of trade unions under the banner of the American Federation of Labor. I am confident that that action will have great influence with the few international unions still unaffiliated and that the day is near at hand when it can be truthfully said that every bona fide international and local trade body of America will be banded together in the bonds of unity, fraternity and solidarity in the most beneficient voluntary association of the workers existing anywhere in the world, the American Federation of Labor."

CHESTER GETTING IN LINE.

Chester, Pa., Oct. 21.—The spirit of trade unionism is becoming active and militant in this city and vicinity and new unions are being lined up by the active workers in a very encouraging way. Recently the plumbers reorganized and they have already secured contracts with the bosses recognizing the union, granting increased wages and a lessening of the hours.

The barbers are also a new organization and have already commenced an agitation for a betterment of their conditions.

Following the formation of these unions there was an agitation started for the formation of a central labor body. Success has followed and an affiliation has been made to the American Federation of Labor for a charter. The new body will be completed as nearly all the unions in Chester and vicinity and good results are anticipated.

LONG STRIKE ADJUSTED.

Woonsocket, R. I., Oct. 21.—The strike of the weavers at the Prendergast mill at Bridgeton, which began April 19, ended when the strikers accepted a terms from a committee which had a conference with the management of the mills.

The weavers demanded a 10 per cent increase in wages. Being refused a strike resulted. It is reported that the weavers will get an increase and the loomfixers and other operatives will go to work under a new schedule which will mean a raise in every department. About 250 employes are affected.

DEMAND HIGHER WAGES.

Milwaukee, Oct. 21.—Upholsterers' unions are conducting an agitation for higher wages, and an eight hour day. It is stated that workers in this industry are among the lowest paid of the skilled crafts in Milwaukee.

VICTORY FOR UPHOLSTERERS.

Baltimore, Oct. 21.—After a strike lasting four weeks the Upholsterers' union has finally won a substantial victory, all the firms signing the new wage increase and granting a reduction in hours.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

A "WIDE AWAKE" EDITOR.

Hamilton, Ontario, Oct. 21.—The Hamilton Herald editor has discovered why the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress has called on the government to repeal the Lemieux act.

Canadian workers opposed the law because it denies them the right to quit their employment for 30 days, when engaged in public utilities. They look on it as an interference with their liberties and that its operation is one-sided.

But Canadian trade unionists are discovered by the wide awake Herald editor, who charges Dominion organized workers with a tendency to "slavishly accept the ideas of the American Federation of Labor."

President Gompers, according to this writer, is to blame. Canadian workers have no ideas of their own.

"It is well known," continues the editor, "that President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, is naturally hostile to the Lemieux act, and the proposal to introduce legislation in the United States congress based on the Canadian measure. It is not improbable that in adopting the resolution favoring the repeal of the act the Dominion Trades Congress was influenced by a desire to please the A. F. of L. leaders and to furnish him with the fighting material that he desires."

STRUCK TO GET RECOGNITION.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 21.—After a strike of nine days on the lines of the Muskogee Electric Traction company the manager has consented to recognize the representatives of a union of Amalgamated Street Carmen's union and reinstate all the men discharged for joining.

When it was discovered by the manager of the company that a union of the company's men was being formed he pursued the usual course of discharging all who were reported as being members. The men being forced to protect themselves sought an interview. That was refused, and a strike resulted. A member of the state board of arbitration was then called in. He got busy with the manager of the company and after several conferences a settlement was reached that gives the union full recognition, the reinstatement of all discharged members and an agreement to arbitrate all differences in the future.

CORN HUSKERS HAVE UNION.

Danville, Ill., Oct. 21.—Corn huskers in Middefork township have formed a union and are demanding 4 cents a bushel when the farmer has a corn dump and 6½ when they are compelled to scoop it. The price includes bed and board while they are at work.

The average corn husker can husk from 75 to 100 bushels a day and at the rates proposed by the union will receive from $2.55 to $4.09 a day with board and sleeping quarters. The scale is 1 cent above that the farmers are offering in most localities. The union has about 100 members and, owing to scarcity of help because of extensive road-building in the county, the union threatens to cause a great trouble among the corn huskers.

MILK WAGON DRIVERS GAIN.

Toronto, Ont., Oct. 21.—Milk wagon drivers have about concluded negotiations with large dairies in this city. The union is recognized, a 9 hour day minimum is agreed to, and drivers will not be responsible for debts. Employers also agree to the day a month and seven holidays a year, with pay.

BOILER MAKERS GET 45 CENTS.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 21.—Negotiations have been under way for some time past between the boiler makers and their employers over an increase in wages. The differences were finally satisfactorily adjusted by the employers agreeing to pay in the future 45 cents an hour.

Is a justice of the Supreme Court whose decisions have always been against Labor likely to protect or promote the rights and interest of Labor if he were to become President?

A STUDY IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Washington, Oct. 21.—Interesting findings and recommendations for the prevention of industrial accidents at the Washington navy yard are published as the result of a study of all such cases by Passed Assistant Surgeon Bloedorn of the navy. The investigation covered the period of two years beginning January 1, 1914. The average number of men employed was 2,300. The total number of men reporting one or more injuries was 3,175. Of these 1,751 injuries, 1,353 were received by 183 men, or, as Dr. Bloedorn puts it, 8.6 per cent of the total number of men in the yard suffer 73 per cent of the total number of injuries.

The three most frequent injuries received, the order of their frequency, were lacerations, contusions and foreign bodies in the eye. Five injuries resulted fatally, three being caused by falling objects, one being the result of a fall and one being caused by machinery. The six shops showing the highest percentage of injuries in their relative order were the riggers' shop, the blacksmiths' workshop, miscellaneous, primer and erecting.

"Power-driven machinery," says Surgeon Bloedorn, "is a fruitful source of injury, and one that may be counteracted through various safety devices. The high-speed machinery, such as grinders, circular and band saws, and high-speed lathes, are particularly dangerous and require the use of safety devices. The heavy, slow-speed machines, such as planers, shapers, slotters and slow-speed lathes, are comparatively less hazardous.

"Work with hand tools and simple apparatus expose the workman to comparatively little injury, mostly of the nature of wounds of the upper extremities, particularly of the fingers and hands, the majority of which are slight and cause no loss of time. Carrying, lifting and transporting result in a relatively small percentage of injuries and includes muscular strains received in lifting and carrying. Contact with dangerous substances, such as molten metal, live wires and the various chemicals used, is responsible for a small number of injuries."

Employes between the ages of 21 and 30 received the greatest number of injuries. The percentage decreased steadily between the ages of 30 and 50 and 51. Although engaged in less hazardous work as a rule colored employes showed a higher injury rate. Unmarried employes are more prone to injured than married.

The injury rate was markedly higher during the first six months of employment and decreased as the length of time employed increased. Skilled workers showed the lowest percentage of injuries, with helpers and apprentices highest. It is stated that "individuals differ greatly in their susceptibility to injury, although engaged in the same class of work, and that this susceptibility to injury varies in the same individual from time to time."

It is recommended that special attention be given the new employe until he becomes thoroughly acquainted with his machine or tool, and with all fellow-workmen, and that he be instructed in the character of his work.

"That special effort be made to avoid accident during the first two-hour period of the day, which is considered the most dangerous period of employment.

"That employes who appear most susceptible to injury be given particular attention and an effort made to decrease their susceptibility to injury, either by correcting any physical defects which may exist or by instruction and education in the habits of safe workmanship.

"That the use of protective goggles be made compulsory for all employes engaged in work which exposes the eyes to frequent injury from flying particles, that these goggles be fitted to each man individually so that they fit the orbital margin snugly and render the workman immune to injury when he does wear them, and that extra lenses be provided in efficient quantities so that when a lens becomes damaged by flying chips which become embedded in the glass and interfere with vision it may be replaced at once.

"That particular attention be given the shops that show a high percentage of injuries and those that show a high loss of time per man.

"That exposed shafts, belts, pulleys, flywheels, gears, circular and band saws, and emery wheels be provided with guards wherever practicable."

INJUNCTION INCLUDES ALL.

San Francisco, Oct. 21.—Two members of the Bakers' union believed they could beat the injunction game," but Judge Hunt, who issued the order against picketing, ruled otherwise and fined the unionists $50 each. The court declared that the order did not extend to the Bakers' union, but the court said:

"To render a person amenable to an injunction, it is unnecessary that he should be a party to the suit wherein it is issued, or that he should actually be served with a copy thereof, so long as it appears that he knew the terms of said order at the time he ignored it."

The decision, while well known in court practice, will be news to outside workers that injunctions are issued for one specific purpose—against striking workers, and that it is folly to attempt to use them instead of resisting this triumph of injustice.

ELECTRICAL STRIKE ENDS.

Pittsfield, Mass., Oct. 21.—The strike at the plant of the General Electric company has been settled through compromise and several thousand men and women workers have returned to work. It is stated that all demands involving working conditions have been granted and that wages are increased 8 per cent.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION.

Jackson, Mich., Oct. 21.—As a result of the labor forward movement now in progress in the city and vicinity a new union of electrical workers has been formed composed of both white and colored men. On its roster are the names of nearly all the electrical workers in Jackson and surrounding territory.

TEN PER CENT FOR MOLDERS.

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 21.—Announcement is made that the molders employed by the Carbon Steel company have had their wages advanced 10 per cent. Two months ago an advance of 5 per cent was also given them by the company. Day laborers have also increased, about one hundred being affected.

OPPOSE BONUS SYSTEM.

Baltimore, Oct. 21.—About 250 employes of the Poole Engineering and Machinery company are on strike against the present system of giving bonuses and want an increase of 25 per cent in wages.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

WINDOW CLEANERS GAIN.

New York, Oct. 21.—After a two weeks' strike Window Cleaners' Protective union No. 12,126, affiliated to the A. F. of L., has won a complete victory and secured the following gains: Wages increases averaging 20 per cent; the eight-hour day; pay for eight holidays; all day for rainy days; time and one-half for overtime; double time for Sundays and holidays. This is the largest victory ever won by a union was chartered by the A. F. of L. last June and the gains made by it is another refutation of the claim that the A. F. of L. is only interested in the so-called "skilled" workers, although no one has ever defined the dividing line between a "skilled" and an "unskilled" worker.

A. F. of L. Organizer Frayne, who assisted in the negotiations, declares the agreement is one of the best that is possible to obtain. As a result of the strike, he adds, the membership of the union has increased by several hundreds.

COMPENSATION BOARD RULING.

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 21.—The state workmen's compensation board has ruled that the dependents of an injured workman must not be denied compensation simply because the patient insists upon being taken from one hospital to another. The board also rules that the rights of dependents are not prejudiced simply because physicians perform some very complicated operations that are "successful" from a technical standpoint, but which are followed by the death of the patient.

PACKERS SIGN AN AGREEMENT.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 21.—After negotiations covering two weeks the packers representing five of the largest firms here signed an agreement with Butcher Workers' union. It being the first one ever secured by the union. No wage increase was involved. The other firms are expected to follow in a short time. The union has been formed only since May 1.

PUDDLERS RAISE WAGES.

Danville, Pa., Oct. 21.—More than 300 employes of the Reading Iron company have received an advance of 50 cents a ton. The rate is now $7.50 a ton; a year ago it was $6.50.

On good authority it is asserted that candidate Hughes wears a "Loewe Danbury Hat" and under it carries his smirk.

MR. LEE WANTS "LIGHT."

Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 21.—In an address to the American Electric Railway association Ivy L. Lee, of New York, suggested that copy published be employed so that editors would consider such matter authentic and publish it on its merits alone.

Trade unionists in this city are wondering if the Rockefeller interests are preparing to cast adrift Mr. Lee, and if he is attempting to cast an anchor to windward by making this suggestion to electric railway managers.

During the recent strike of Colorado miners, Lee had charge of the operators' publicity bureau. Before the commission on industrial relations it was shown that much of the printed matter in this campaign was mailed in bulk from the east to Denver, where it was remailed to individuals by the Colorado Iron and Coal company.

It was also shown that Lee's policy was: "You must be careful what thoughts you implant in the mind of the public."

VOTE TO REMAIN LOYAL.

New York, Oct. 21.—By a five to one vote the members of 61 local unions of the Brotherhood of Carpenters have voted to accept the recommendations of the special committee elected by the recent Fort Worth convention.

These unions were suspended because of their violation of laws in connection with their wage movement last summer. They then secured an injunction against General President Hutcheson, of the brotherhood. At the Fort Worth convention, after a full investigation, the general officers were sustained and the New York unions ordered to withdraw the injunction as the first requisite of reinstatement, which must be worked out under the direction of the general officers, who have been unyielding in their demand that the brotherhood's laws be complied with.

ONLY REQUIRED ONE DAY.

Spokane, Wash., Oct. 21.—The linemen employed by the Pacific Suites Telephone company were compelled to strike to secure the discharge of an incompetent foreman who was daily endangering their lives. An amicable adjustment of the matter had been pending for a month, the company refusing to grant a definite answer to the men's request. In order to force the issue the union met and instructed its members to cease work. In one day's time the objectionable foreman was released and the strikers returned to work.

ONE HOUR LESS AND $3 RAISE.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 21.—After being on strike for four days the newly organized teamsters' union of this city has already secured an increase of $3 in wages and a reduction of one hour to working time. Negotiations are now pending which are made to secure a settlement of their difference, with the bosses, but were unsuccessful in the first effort. The scale of $60 had been put by each employer to not make any concessions in the matter. The strike is confined to that branch of the ready-made clothing industry.

UPHOLSTERERS WIN STRIKE.

Baltimore, Oct. 21.—Upholsterers' unions 26 and 28 have been engaging in battle for the past month, completely tying up all the shops in the city. A settlement was finally reached and the workers have returned to work, gaining their demands. The success of the strike is considered a big victory.

FREIGHT HANDLERS STRIKE.

Niagara Falls, Ontario, Oct. 21.—Freight handlers employed in the Grand Trunk Railroad yards are on strike for $2.5 a day. The company insists on a piece work system.

As vote for candidate Hughes is a vote to endorse his decision by which the Danbury hatters in their old age were robbed of their savings and the union which sheltered them.

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OHIO UNIONISTS MEET.

Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 21.—The best convention in the history of the federation," is the unanimous verdict of every delegate to the state federation of labor, which held its annum convention in this city last week.

Secretary-Treasurer Donnelly reported that 230 locals have been added during the year, making a total of 393 affiliations with nearly 400 accredited delegates. President Yost and other officials were re-elected and two additional vice presidents were created. The salary of Secretary Donnelly was increased.

CIGAR MAKERS WIN INCREASE.

Tampa, Fla., Oct. 21.—Striking cigar makers and representatives of nine factories have reached an agreement by which the strikers will get 40 per cent of the wage increase they sought.

All the men returned to work except employes of the factory that has not yet accepted the compromise.

The demand for higher pay involved only those employes working in factory departments where cigars are handmade. Those in stemmeries got the wage increases granted very according to the different classes of "mould" cigars.

PULP WORKERS WIN.

Appleton, Wis., Oct. 21.—The Pulp and Sulphite Workers' union has won its three-months' strike against the Riverside mills. The company agrees to recognize the union and there will be no discrimination against the organization.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

ILLINOIS MINERS ARE STILL ON STRIKE

Chicago, Oct. 21.—Secretary Olander of the Illinois State federation of Labor, has issued a statement denial of a report from Springfield that the governor of Kentucky, Illinois miners has been adjusted.

"The statement is incorrect," says Olander. "The entrance of the farmers has been checked by action of state authorities, but the mining company continues its fight against the union and the men are still on strike. Financial aid to support the families of the strikers is needed."

Roslclare is located in Hardin county, in the extreme southern part of this state. There was not a labor organization in that county until the miners organized because of low wages, long hours and poor working conditions.

The 12-hour work day was common, and dismissal followed a mere refusal to labor on Sunday. State laws, intended to safeguard the lives and health of miners, were disregarded, and these workers were compelled to stand in water while at work.

These conditions forced the men to unite. No labor unionist assisted them. The organization idea grew, but finally "company men" made their usual report and a large number of officers were discharged. The men then appointed a committee to confer with the management, which declared that if they did not like conditions they could quit. Under the circumstances their only alternative was strike. Guards and thugs were employed by the company and a reign of terror started. Several hundred people were driven from Hardin county by the gunmen, who have since been checked by the state authorities.

These miners produce spar, a mineral that is very important in industry, including war munitions. Nearly all the spar in this country comes from Hardin county. The strike started July 31, and involved 4,365 machine miners.

Settlements have been reached in 19 shafts through conference of the management with committees appointed by the union. Today eight shops, employing 1,570 men, are working 50 hours for $3 a week. Five shops, employing 1,675 are working 50 hours or less a week. The remaining shops, employing 2,000 men, are working 53 1-2 hours a week. At the beginning of the campaign, Milwaukee was working 54 hours a week, and the average wages increased from under 25 cents an hour to 34 1-2 cents an hour.

UNION OF HOUSEMAIDS.

Boston, Oct. 21.—Minimum wage for housemaids, if a week; working three ten hours a day. This is the outcome of the organization of the Domestic Workers' Guide' union, which it is predicted will likely spread to Boston. Formerly housemaids received $3 and $4 per week for 84 a week.

The housemaids are seeking to affiliate their conference and conventions are expected to demand a minimum of $5 a day instead of the $3.50 they now receive.

MINERS SECURE INCREASE.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 21.—Organized miners in this state have accepted the employers' compromise offer, which provides for a 5 per cent increase for day workers and 5 per cent for tonnage workers. This difference resulted in a suspension of work for about a week.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

MILWAUKEE MACHINISTS GAIN.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 21.—Machinists in this city are winning their eight-hour strike, reports Emmanuel Adams, organizer of the International Association of Machinists. The strike started July 31, and involved 4,365 machine shop workers.

Settlements have been reached in 19 shops through conference of the management with committees appointed by the union. Today eight shops, employing 1,570 men, are working 50 hours for $3 a week. Five shops, employing 1,675 are working 50 hours or less a week. The remaining shops, employing 2,000 men, are working 53 1-2 hours a week. At the beginning of the campaign, Milwaukee was working 54 hours a week, and the average wages increased from under 25 cents an hour to 34 1-2 cents an hour.

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SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 1916.

Entered as second-class matter, September 16, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Issued from the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

SAMUEL GOMPERS ..... President
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

JAMES DUNCAN ..... First Vice President
Hancock Building, Quincy, Mass.

JAMES O'CONNELL ..... Second Vice President
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

D. A. HAYES ..... Third Vice President
920 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

JOSEPH F. VALENTINE ..... Fourth Vice President
Commercial Tribune Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

JOHN R. ALPINE ..... Fifth Vice President
401-406 Bush Temple of Music, Chicago, Ill.

H. B. PERHAM ..... Sixth Vice President
Star Building, St. Louis, Mo.

FRANK DUFFY ..... Seventh Vice President
Carpenters' Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

WILLIAM GREEN ..... Eighth Vice President
1102-1105 Mercantile Bank Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

JOHN B. LENNON ..... Treasurer
Bloomington, Illinois.

FRANK MORRISON ..... Secretary
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

FEELING WITH LABOR

By John D. Barry.

W. D. Howells once said of Tolstoi that he could not wholly share the feelings of the poor, for the reason that, in spite of wearing the peasant garb and working in the fields, he could not know "the dread and fear of want." Many radical leaders say virtually the same thing about the more aristocratic champions of labor. And many laboring people feel the same way toward their well-dressed adherents. In a sense this view is right. In another sense it is misleading. For there are few people in the world, indeed, that are wholly free from "the dread and fear of want."

Not one of us is absolutely secure.

"The dread and fear of want" is a recognized disease among millionaires. It goes with too much as well as too little. In fact, there is something to be gained by coming face to face with want. It is like meeting disaster that we have feared all our lives. Here it is. Now we can grapple with it. As a rule, we find it is not nearly so formidable in reality as it was in imagination. When it existed only as a remote chance we could not get into action. We could not fight. Now all the forces of our being come into play. In the resistance they may be a kind of joy.

One of those millionaires who are not much more than respectable gamblers, a plunger in the stock market, once told me that he expected to be poor some day. He was carefully bringing his children up to be ready to meet poverty. They were all trained to do some kind of work. "I am not afraid," he said, "and I have taught them not to be afraid."

But I thought that in the tone of his voice I could detect fear.

I know a man born to wealth and to all that wealth implies who is devoting his life to the cause of labor. Very keenly he feels the injustice which the laboring people and himself. He has taken a curious way to bridge it. He wears rough clothes. He has cut expenses he has reduced to a mere subsistence. He subjects himself to discomforts. He is fastidious and refined and developed, often revolts against the wretchedness of his surroundings. But it is powerless against his will. He has succeeded in persuading the laborers to accept him as one of themselves. But cynicals would say that, like Tolstoi, he could never actually share their feelings. There would always be a difference between them and him. He could never be one of them. And yet I believe that his very sacrifice proves his sincerity and marked him worthy of what he is becoming, a labor leader. Because of a certain unreserve in his attitude he deserves not less credit but more.

And yet in spite of all my reasoning, I feel that there is a difference. It was brought home to me years ago by an incident that occurred at the close of a labor leader's trial. In the courtroom out of a mangling web for many years had been an admirer of that leader. When the jury came in to render its decision he sat up straight, his face growing white. As soon as he heard the verdict he burst into tears. For a long time he was unable to control himself. Afterward some one asked him how he happened to be so moved. He replied that it was not merely for personal reasons. It was because the acquittal meant so much more for labor. "You see," he said, "I have been in the fight all my life. I have seen the kind of work, the kind that kills men. I have been a worker and I have devoted coal for hours at a time, next to a furnace, practically naked, with the sweat pouring over my body. I have seen men go almost crazy with the heat, and after a few days I have seen them at their work. And I have seen them so played out that all they could do was to stagger to the nearest rum shop and get a drink. Lots of times I have seen go to hell in this way. I know what the fight for labor means."

He was an idealist, this man. There are many like him. They have felt the iron driven into their souls. They know the meaning of the anguish of labor. They are the spokesmen of the world, the burden bearers, the toilers in the mine and mill. In their hearts they have one hope, one dream, the emancipation of their brothers from infinite suffering and the degradation where all men shall have a fair chance.

Railroads' Hypocrisy Toward "The Public"

By Samuel Gompers, in American Federationist.

During the past few weeks we have been hearing a great deal about the rights and the interests of the public. The term "public" is used in an indiscriminating, baffling manner that immediately raises the question, Who—what is the public; of what elements in society is the public made up? When the street-car strike of New York City forces thousands to walk, the New York Times, that earnest advocate of the interests of Wall Street, solemnly declares: "As the general discomfort rises, it becomes clearer that one side is trying to serve the public and the other side is seeking the victory by the people's inconvenience." This is a very serious charge if it has basis in fact. What new reason is there for thinking that the traction companies of New York City have developed a disinterested desire to further the convenience of the straphanging commuters at rush hours? According to the New York Times the frantic efforts of these companies to maintain service despite the efforts of workers to make the companies realize they cannot operate their cars "without proper regard to the rights and demands of their employees is a service to the public. Consider for a minute who the public is. The five millions of people living in New York City may be divided into two classes—those who work and those who are employed. These two classes look at all industrial problems from opposite sides. The employed have the viewpoint of the wage-earner; those who employ have the viewpoint of the owners or managers of business. Each group knows that wherever its contentions or viewpoints are strengthened and maintained in dealing with an industrial problem, it means that it will be easier for him as an individual to secure his point in dealing with his own employes. On the other hand, every contest that results in favor of wage-earners grounds more firmly in the institutions of our country the rights and the interests of wage-earners. It develops an appreciation of the purposes of the wage-earners in making their contest, and secures for them a favorable and sympathetic understanding which make it impossible that social and political institutions shall be used to defeat strikes and efforts of wage earners to secure better conditions of life and work.

In a sense, therefore, every strike and effort of wage-earners to establish higher standards and better conditions is a fight of every other wage-earner. In a restricted sense it is the workers' fight for single trade or industry who are on the firing line, but they are fighting for the whole labor movement, their victory is the progress of the whole group; it means the progress and welfare of humanity.

Theodore P. Shonts and Frank Hedley have emphatically declared in a public statement that they are fighting for the welfare and best interests of the public and their "loyal employes" on the street-car lines. We understand that Shonts and Hedley are really fighting one bas only to consider the conditions which have known that wherever its contentions or viewpoints are strengthened and maintained in dealing with an industrial problem, it means that it will be easier for him as an individual to secure his point in dealing with his own employes. On the other hand, every contest that results in favor of wage-earners grounds more firmly in the institutions of our country the rights and the interests of wage-earners. It develops an appreciation of the purposes of the wage-earners in making their contest, and secures for them a favorable and sympathetic understanding which make it impossible that social and political institutions shall be used to defeat strikes and efforts of wage earners to secure better conditions of life and work.

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DESPAIR HAS NO PLACE IN UNIONISM

Is there any room in the trade union movement for the apostle of depressing effect? There surely is not, and the best teaching of this kind that we have the better it is for labor.

There are a few men and women in the ranks of organized labor who seem to thrive on preaching the gospel of despair. They never fail to tell you of the starvation of working men, women and children and the terrible wreck that is wrought among humanity by labor control of the various forces of society. These men and women see no good in life. They do not hear the singing of the birds, they do not see the beautiful sunshine and enjoy the days that are made for humanity's sake.

The real trade unionist is a conformed optimist, going about preaching the gospel of hope and as he goes through life, throwing words of comfort here and spreading cheer along his pathway. Far better, my friends, that we help one lone struggling being here than to let him to his fate and hundreds just as well as our own shortcomings upon the system of today.

And why shouldn't the trade unionist feel happy? There is no institution in America that has and is doing as much for downtrodden humanity as the trade union movement of our country, as exemplified by the American Federation of Labor for the past 30-odd years, and yes, coming toward the three million mark doing everything they can, which admits of very little, for the betterment of mankind. And the year 1916 has been a great one for organized labor. The hand of brawn and muscle is fast becoming that intellectual being that will be the backbone of the future, when all about the enjoyment of the blessings of today through education and organization.

No ideal of life people is brought forth that is not championed by the trade union movement. No man, woman or class-conscious as the trade unions which go to make up the great American labor movement.

On every side wages have been increased, hours shortened and some great fundamental finally worked out. And no organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor has enjoyed greater blessings than the United Mine Workers of America. At the New York joint conference an advance of wages, giving over people millions of dollars, was secured. That great fundamental for which men have bled and died for on the industrial field and for which they have been driven back in defeat in the legislative halls of our country since the memorable day of the coal mining industry, was forever established on the entire North American continent. This wonderful victory established at the conference table without an industrial battle was surely one of the greatest in the annals of our organization. Yet we did not stop in our onward march. For more than fifty years the anthracite miners have hoped and dreamed of the time when the eight-hour day would be theirs. In recent years two titanic industrial struggles took place in this field, but the miners were forced to stack their arms for the time being and await that great day. It finally came. When the capitalistic organization newspapers were saying no, when the apostles of despair everywhere were declaring the battle lost, we trusted with the destiny of the anthracite miners. Yes, that day was ushered in, again at conference with the operators, whose interests, swayed by the powerful argument and sound logic of the miners' representatives, were finally bewildered reasoning to yield the eight-hour day.

With all these marvelous achievements in the annals of our organization, what room there can be no room in the organization for the destroyer of optimism. No, my friends, the trade union movement is made up of workers, not shirkers, men who are doing things, and not dreamers who do not cry in despair over their failures of yesterday, but who have the courage to fight on for the achievements today and for the victories of tomorrow.

At no time could you feel prouder of your party than you are a trade unionist than today. This is the era of true unionism. Let us go on and on teaching the gospel of hope, building better organization and making life better, brighter and sweeter.—Van Bittner, in United Mine Workers' Journal.

WHAT LABOR IS TRYING TO DO

It should be borne in mind that labor is not, as has been claimed in the past, a mere commodity. It is human power. It is the living force that is the source of initiating not only its own life, but the life of those dependent upon it. And those dependent upon labor include the whole world. In the past they gave labor as little as possible. The workers often was abused and degraded and weakened. Out of the labor market, like a cruel sea of slavery, were human millions to be sacrificed, consisting not only of men, but of women and children. For generations labor has been struggling to make this sacrifice impossible and to place itself on such basis where it belongs, where it can secure from the whole world the recognition of its service. It knows, and it is going to make the world know, that without it, human life cannot continue. As soon as a full understanding be reached it believes that labor should be appreciated at their true worth and properly rewarded.

The labor movement in Los Angeles, like labor movements everywhere, is essentially humanitarian. It is a struggle against wage, against waste of human life, of human abilities and capacities, of remunerations in the way of intellectual and moral and social development. It sees great rewards going to the few, and a bare living, or no living at all going to the multitude. Moreover, it sees the few weakened and degraded by surfeit, even while the multitude suffers. Its ideal is the betterment of the whole race.

It looks forward to the day when labor, instead of being despised as it is now, shall be honored, when the worth of a man shall be estimated not by the money that comes from the toil of others, but in the service he is able to render society, when he sees in the present organized realization on the part of society that the gambling in labor, which is gambling in human life, must cease, and that a new ideal must be maintained, placing the welfare of mankind above the present concern for property.

Whatever may be the achievements of labor, it has safeguarding to every one that comes into the world a reasonable opportunity to make a living.

The treatment of labor in the past is the tragedy of history. It has been unscrupulously pressed and encouraged as the will of God. Now it is recognized as a result of the blindness, the selfishness and the shortsightedness of man. The hope of the future lies in the correction of this generated blunder, which has weakened the foundations of human life throughout the world. In the creating of labor as the rights of labor safeguarded, labor looks forward to a new era, far more wonderful than has ever been known. The labor movement everywhere, is essentially humanitarian. It is a struggle against waste, against waste of human life, of human abilities and capacities, of remunerations in the way of intellectual and moral and social development. It sees great rewards going to the few, and a bare living, or no living at all going to the multitude. Moreover, it sees the few weakened and degraded by surfeit, even while the multitude suffers. Its ideal is the betterment of the whole race.

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MEN AND COMMODITIES

By the Editor of Metropolitan Magazine, September issue, 1916.

It was generally understood at Chicago last June, and it is certainly understood now that the old guard took Hughes because he was the one man mentioned by the Chicago conventions (apart from Colonel Roosevelt) who could get the support of Republicans and Progressives alike. Hughes was the candidate of the Republican organization who was respectively opposed by the Progressive delegates at the auditorium, but that was because he alone prevented their getting Roosevelt. Once nominated Hughes stands in an entirely new relation to the voters who made up the rank and file of the Progressive party, and there is nothing inconsistent in the action of the leaders who supports him strongly now after having fought his nomination at Chicago. Hughes was chosen by the old guard just because he was at least liberal enough and independent enough to appear acceptable to the Progressives. He has the reputation of strict honesty, great earnestness of purpose and real liberality in his political views. Is that not enough for any Progressive? Is not that exactly what the Progressives are looking for in its leaders and statesmen?

The Progressives, we imagine, are looking for something more, and something different. And the true Progressives are inclined to think that the nomination of Hughes has not yet displayed any sympathy with modern reform—although enough it is true that he has not had much of an opportunity of doing so. As governor he has shown a fairly admirable example of an efficient advocate of good government. He carried out the laws fearlessly and without favor; he was not subservient to machine influences; he was strong for public morality, and he desired to save the State from its own pet vice by passing and enforcing a measure which had failed twice in the forms of popular government, and expected great things to come of a direct primary law. Those who condemn persons could more readily select their candidates for office.

Twenty years ago there was a good government movement in New York, and its adherents were irreverently called the Good-Goo by those who looked for more practical citizens. To be a Goo-Goo in those days was to be something between radical and daring. Mr. Hughes, to many Progressives, proved himself at Albany the perfect Goo-Goo. Perhaps there is nothing that the Progressives hate more than a Goo-Goo, because to the Progressive the Goo-Goo is acting but a reactionary with a radical mask. And when you come to think of it John Hughes is the perfect example of the Goo-Goo. He possesses the housewifely virtues so abhorred by the suffragettes, and he abhors gambling; he is a good family man and a regular churchgoer; he believes in carrying out his ideas in efficient government. In good roads, clean streets and hygiene. Probably Mr. Rockefeller, if his attention had been turned to it, would have been a strong supporter of a direct primary law, for there is nothing that the people want more thoroughly approves of than the efficient working without favoritism of the forms of democracy. We can quite imagine that John Rockefeller, at Albany, would have been just as good a governor as Hughes and one of a very similar type. Both men, we suppose, believe in the existing order of things, and only want to improve that order a little by regulating private behavior. When you realize the fundamental similarity between Governor Hughes and the leader of our modern plutocracy can you wonder that the real Republican of the United States asks whether he should swallow the Republican candidate? Mark well that we make a distinction between Governor Hughes and Candidate Hughes. The world has progressed an astonishing distance since Hughes was at Albany, and we have no right to assume that he has not progressed with it. In some respects, no doubt, he has.

The touchstone of the whole business is the relation of the candidate to labor. In all communities there is a conservative element representing capital and privilege and this conservative element makes most of the laws and has the chief hand in administering them. This conservative element produces most of the reaps the profits. When it becomes reactionary and overambitious it stimulates an opposition in the ranks of the rest of the population which becomes an agglomeration of various discontented classes. And the consumers sometimes get the upper hand, and pass laws which are opposed by the conservative party and therefore called liberal. Most civilized countries have a liberal and conservative party representing in each case the two different communities. Sometimes, as in the United States, there is a conservative and liberal element in both of the two great parties of the country. But always the conservative element represents the capitalist or the landowner or the manufacturer, the men who possess and produce, while the liberal element represents the consumer who buys. We have plenty of liberal laws in the United States. The Sherman anti-trust law is a case in point; examples of railroad legislation are extremely liberal insofar as they benefit the consumer, but in few countries does any political party represent the man who creates commodities with his labor. And in our own country he is hardly represented at all. None of the so-called liberal parties is for his benefit. In fact, he frequently gets less than the liberal element in politics than, from the Progressive point of view, the actual representation and he heeds justice. The Progressive party was founded largely to give justice to labor. And there is nothing more common in modern legislation than the Progressive who believes in a proper reform for labor and the liberal who is mainly of lowering the price to the consumer. Nor have the family virtues anything to do with the case. Governor Hughes, which merely carries out efficiently the existing order in the interest of capital or of the consumer, is not highly regarded by the Progressive, and that is why the Progressives are lacking in enthusiasm up to the present for Hughes.

Whether a man is a true progressive or not must be judged largely by his attitude toward labor unions. Broadly speaking, our laws have done nothing for labor unions. Whatever the workers have earned in wages or comfort or shorter hours has been won by agitation and often by terrorization. The union has given labor power to make terms. Capital often increases wages, just as the steel corporation did the other day. But these increases are generally made to meet the union's demands, or to forestall the union. It is not merely organized labor that has benefited by the work of the union. Whenever the union is able to advance wages among union workers the nonunion worker reaps the benefit. No one with the slightest knowledge of economic history has any doubt but that the union, with its power to strike, has been the one force that has stood between labor and absolute slavery in the last half century. THEREFORE, THE TEST OF A CANDIDATE'S PROGRESSIVISM LIES IN HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UNION.

Of late years the reactionary element has tried to use the Sherman act against labor. This liberal measure was passed in the interest of the consumer, and now the capitalist tries to use it for his own purposes. Undoubtedly, from a legal standpoint, the labor union, whenever it calls a strike and uses its power pickets to prevent strike-breakers coming in, or employs the boycott, is acting in restraint of trade. But when the framers were not thinking of the labor union when they passed the law; it is quite obvious that they were thinking of the trust, the control of commodities, and of the result of the control in the price to the consumer. Therefore, the question was the man who has to pay more for his dinner because competing oil dealers may not put out circulars to the big oil dealer. Labor has achieved this much, that the injunction attack on the union through the Sherman act has been temporarily stopped.

The Clayton act has decided that the Sherman act does not apply to labor unions because it was intended to apply to commodities AND LABOR IS NOT A COMMODITY.

There you have the final distinction between the liberal and the conservative. The great liberal authorities of the last century, like Bill and Cobden, regarded labor as a commodity to be bought in the cheapest market and to be subject to the inexorable law of supply and demand. Many of our most liberal-minded people today are not a whit advanced beyond Cobden and Bright. The force of civilization and strikes have been able to do. labor is still treated largely as a commodity to be bought in the cheapest market, and the workman gets paid more today than in 1850 not because he is, but because all other commodities have also gone up in price. He still gets a bare subsistence and in few countries verge of extreme want: at any moment an accident may deprive him of a livelihood; and he is not able to demand in times of hard times. He gets none of the profits of his labor. He enjoys none of the amenities of life, and he can raise a family in decent comfort. So long as labor is regarded as a commodity so long will these conditions, hardly better than slavery, exist. The Clayton bill, passed through the labor unions, recognized that labor is not a commodity. Will Mr. Hughes and his party go so far as the Clayton bill? Will they go any farther?

BIG PROFITS IN STEEL.

New York, Oct. 21.—The Lackawanna Steel company earned a net income of $4,046,193 in the quarter ended September 30, as against $2,163,022 over the corresponding period last year. After paying interest and writing off $175,848 more for depreciation than a year before, the corporation's profit was $3,060,226, as against $1,149,976, and at the annual rate of 25.2 per cent. on the stock.

In the nine months ended with September the company wrote from earnings $1,547,723 for depreciation, more than three times as much as in the same period in 1915, and had remaining a profit of $3,379,042. This was almost 100 per cent. more than in the third quarter last year. Unfilled orders as of September 30 amounted to 744,624 tons, a total of 251,000 tons greater than twelve months before.

EFFECT OF LONG HOURS.

Long hours of labor have a tendency to stifle the brain, impair the nervous and the vital organs of the body, and to reduce the opportunity for physical and mental improvement. It has required the hours of labor to eight out of each twenty-four, only six days per week, in all branches of industry in order to stimulate to a higher state of civilization.

One has only to watch a few normal men work for eight hours per day and then watch the man that works twelve hours per day to understand the different look in his eyes. One has a firm, quick step, the other the step of a slave that is driven. One has a firm grip and is too tired to think for himself or to act for others.—Ex.

MILLIONS CAN'T WRITE NAME.

San Francisco, Oct. 21.—According to figures filed today by the extension department of the University of California, 88 per cent of the children in the public schools never go beyond the eighth grade. One-half of the children leave the grammar schools at that time and do not resume their training.

In the United States 5,500,000 people over sixteen cannot write their own names. That this record promises to become even worse is shown by the fact that out of 25,000,000 children of school age, only 15,000,000 are actually in the schools, thus leaving 3,500,000 unaccounted for.

EFFICIENCY—REAL AND BOGUS.

Efficiency is a good thing up to a point where it does not injure the worker. The most important thing in creation is the human being. The vast majority of human beings are not to be slaves by the fact that out of 25,000,000 children of school age, only 15,000,000 are actually in the schools, thus leaving 3,500,000 unaccounted for.

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MEAT CUTTERS UNITE.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 21.—Meat cutters and butcher workmen in this city have organized and affiliated up to the international union of this craft.

GROCERY CLERKS CHARTERED.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 21.—The grocery clerks of Peoria, Ill., have been organized in a union composed of a large number of those employed at that calling.

WANTS UTILITY BOARDS TO SETTLE CAR STRIKES

Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 21.—President Charles L. Henry, of the American Electric Railway association predicts that public utility commissions will soon be empowered to settle differences between employers and men.

He said utility boards, fully empowered, would be best suited to adjust disputes, because as members of the public commission are thoroughly acquainted with conditions. Labor officials, he declared, are, in most part fair, and he believes they would doubtless be satisfied with such decisions.

COLORADO MINERS UNITING.

Denver, Colo., Oct. 21.—Six hundred coal miners in Weld county have become affiliated with the United Mine Workers, according to John McLennan, district president of the union. The men are employes of eleven mines, comprising the district recently created by 600 miners.

The men appointed a check weighman and a pit committee of three for each mine, in accordance with the provisions of the state mining laws. The appointments made were immediately ratified by mine owners, and the men went to work.

TAILORS WIN ALL DEMANDS.

Minneapolis, Minn., Oct. 21.—Three hundred tailors who struck in the shops of the Paul struck for recognition of the union, standardization of wages and 5 per cent increase in wages. When their demands were first presented a conference followed and an agreement was reached which was understood would meet the demands would be acceded to. Subsequently the custom tailors were encouraged to repudiate the agreement by representatives of the Citizens' alliance. When the union refused to back down a strike resulted. In less than a week the custom tailors capitulated and the strike terminated, the men winning all demands.

GET UNION RECOGNITION.

For Smith, Ark., Oct. 21.—The employes of the Forth Smith Wagon company recently presented to the union an application for recognition from the company. The request being refused all the men ceased work. Prior to this they had been out for more than a week. Deputy State Labor Commissioner E. J. McKinney got busy and after several conferences with the general manager of the company, he secured a written contract which he submitted to the union for ratification. According to the proposition acted on all strikers will be reinstated. The agreement also calls for a committee is to be selected to settle all disputes that may arise between the union and the company.

STRIKES IN PORTO RICO.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Oct. 21.—The cigmakers, firemen and shop men of the railroads, and the longshoremen of Mayaguez, which almost encircles Porto Rico, struck for an increase of 5 per cent. In all, only small trains are moving.

The street car employes also struck. Partial service is being maintained.

The strike of longshoremen, which has caused serious dislocation of traffic, is ended, an increase of 20 per cent in wages being granted.

The striking bakers also returned to work.

BARBERS REDUCE HOURS.

Norristown, Pa., Oct. 21.—Employing barbers asserted in strike of their organized workers by reducing the work day one-half an hour and agreeing to the following wage scale: $12 a week and 20 per cent over $20; $4 for Saturdays; $2.50 for one day's work.

PRESSMEN GET INCREASE.

St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 21.—The Printing Pressmen's union has just closed an agreement with the employers for an increase of 5% cents per week. It was secured after conferences which was continued for several days.

DEATH RATE IN METAL MINES.

Washington, Oct. 21.—There was a decrease in the number of men killed in metal mines of the United States during 1915, but there was an increase in the rate per 1,000 men employed. Statistics announced by the bureau of mines show that 693 men were killed out of 152,134 employed, compared with 559 killed out of 154,115 employed in 1914. The death rate was 4.55 per 1,000 employed, as compared with 3.54 the previous year.

Men injured number 28,286, of which 1,000 were totally disabled. The number injured in 1914 was 30,226.

WHY WAGES WERE RAISED.

Chicago, Oct. 21.—A short time ago much publicity was given to the raise of packers in this city, who raised wages of their unorganized, poorly paid workers. This is the reason:

The same newspapers, however, gave little publicity to the "melon" that has been floated around Frederick Cube. The re-establishment of the union in that district followed a meeting recently held in Frederick, at which 600 miners.

The men appointed a check weighman and a pit committee of three for each mine, in accordance with the provisions of the state mining laws. The appointments made were immediately ratified by mine owners, and the men went to work.

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Aims, Purposes, Declarations of American Federation of Labor

From the inception of the American Federation of Labor it has taken the stand that while unions for the various trades and callings must each and all be left entirely free to govern themselves within their own borders, yet between the members of all these unions there should be a bond as great as that between the members of the same organization, and it is the aim of the A. F. of L. to strengthen that bond by organization, and by education and inculcation of the feeling and consciousness of unity of interest and solidarity to place the labor movement upon a higher and more effective plane. It seeks to organize the yet unorganized workers, the skilled and the unskilled, the permanently located and the migratory.

The A. F. of L. holds that whatever a man may be so long as he works honestly and seeks to wrong no other man or to advantage himself at the cost to another, and seeks to maintain this standard regardless of how any-toilers may happen to be employed, he is a man Though the A. F. of L. does not advocate strikes, yet it encourages them when all other means to obtain justice for the toilers have failed. It urges that the workers when struck, strike back as best they can. Though strikes do not always win, even the failure alleged to be lost and induce employers to forbear in the future and teach them a lesson they do not readily forget; manly, that Labor is the most important factor in production and entitled to a voice in the question of wages, hours, and conditions under which work shall be performed.

The A. F. of L. stands as the most potent factor in all our country in defense of the rights of the toilers and for their progress. It opposes all endeavors to unite all classes of wage earners under one head through their several organizations with the purpose in view that class, race, creed, political, and trade prejudices may be abolished and that moral and financial support may be given or gained in the fight for justice. It urges and secures the utmost liberty of each organization in the conduct of its own affairs consistent with the generally understood practice of the identity and solidarity of labor.

The A. F. of L. establishes intercommunication; creates agitation and educates not only the workers but the educators. It is in direct correspondence and conference with the workers everywhere. It urges the introduction of the organizations, co-operation and affiliation of all wageworkers who believe in the principle of unity, and that there is something better in life than long hours, low wages, and unemployment and all forms of misery of work.

The A. F. of L. endorses as basic these economic principles: That no trade or calling can long maintain wages, hours, and conditions above the common level; that to maintain and secure for the toilers the highest wages and best conditions of labor organization among the unskilled vitally affects the skilled, whether organized or unorganized; that generally organization of skilled and unskilled workers can be accomplished only by a series of actions extending over a number of years; that the interchange of ideas, ideals, and methods. It seeks to cultivate mutual interest, and to secure united action to announce to the world the wrongs and burdens which the toilers have too long endured. It voices the aims and hopes of the workers within the ranks of the organized, fair and open contest for the different views which may be entertained upon measures proposed to move the grand army of labor onward and forward. It seeks to secure for each trade, craft, or calling, so great a share, as each within the ranks of the A. F. of L. and nowhere is there such a fair opportunity afforded for the advocacy of a new or brighter thought. The A. F. of L. affirms as one of the cardinal principles of the trade union movement that the working people must organize, unite, and federate, irrespective of creed, color, sex, nationality or politics. In the language of the late William E. Gladstone, "trade unions are the bulwarks of modern democracy."

The A. F. of L. stands unalterably for the abolition of all forms of involuntary servitude and devotes its time and efforts to make every day a day of a better life.

The trade union movement fosters education and uproots ignorance; shortens hours and lengthens life; raises wages and lowers usury; increases independence and decreases dependence; mollifies and banishes tyranny; discourages selfishness and establishes fraternity; inhances liberty and reduces prejudice; creates rights and abolishes wrongs; lightens toil and brightens man; makes the workers' world possible and makes it safe and brighter; cheers the home and fireside and makes the world better.

"The labor power of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce." Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

LABOR'S BEST INVESTMENT

Whenever you find a workingman who refuses to join the organization of his trade, with the query, "why should I pay my money into your labor unions?" you can take it for granted that he is one creature who wants to get the benefit of all that which has been accomplished by organized labor without any personal effort or sacrifices, or else he has not sense enough to come in out of the rain.

The American trade unionists know that their labor organizations have brought them hundredfold, yea thousandfold, in return for their investments, and if we analyze the proposition we find that the returns grow in proportion to the investments. As an illustration I take the brewery workers' organization. Prior to 1886, when the brewery workers (or rather the journeymen brewers) organized, they were probably the most exploited and unorganized class of workers in America, with the one exception of the bakery workers. The journeymen brewers' organization took up upon its accounts paying organization; the local dues were only 25 cents per month, of which 10 cents went to their national organization. The consequences was—no local treasury, and no means for the investment of a treasury than to pay for the running expenses of the office.

The brewery proprietors like all other employers were naturally aware of the financial as well as of the numerical weakness of the organization, and decided to exterminate the organization if possible, which they demonstrated by the general lockout of 1888.

While the employers failed in the end, it nevertheless proved that if it would have been any other industry except the brewing industry the plan would have succeeded.

From 1886 until the time when the local dues were increased and the dues to the national organization raised from 10 to 25 cents per month, but very slow progress was made in bettering wages and reducing hours.

Since 1902 the dues to the international union have been raised again, so that now the per capita tax to the international is 50 cents per month per member per month without any other except a 17 strike insurance. The result of the organization the militant character and is responsible for our progress in the past fourteen years in the betterment of wages. If you stop to think that the wages of the brewery workers 25 years ago was between $9 and $10 per month for 12 to 14 hours per day, and that now the wages are from $15 to $25 per week for an almost universal eight-hour working day, you will come to the conclusion that the investment of these workingmen in the form of dues brought thousands upon thousands of per cent of interest.

If an organization carries benefit sys-

THE DUTY OF WORKERS.

To achieve success we must more thoroughly organize, unite and federate our forces. We must establish more fully faith in ourselves and confidence in each other, stand shoulder to shoulder amidst stress or strife, make fraternity the principle of our everyday life upon and off the job. Workers the necessity of helping to bear each other's burdens.—Ex.

SOCIOLOGY.

A knowledge of the facts of society, the order in which they follow one another and their causes and reasons is summed up in sociology. The intercourse of human beings in communities may be defined as society. Social activities may be divided into economics, civics, ethics, customs and religions. This sociology is so exceedingly comprehensive that it takes to itself all forms of knowledge.

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American Federation of Labor to Local Trade and Federal Labor Unions

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with two English, German, Italian or Spanish Mottoes of Common Procedure, giving directions for opening and closing meetings, duties of officers, Initiation of Members, etc., ... $1.00

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Secretary American Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

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HOUSE ROLL CALL VOTES ON CLAYTON LAW

ROLL CALL NO. 1.

On October 8, 1914, the Clayton antitrust bill, which had been amended in the Senate and referred to conference, was reported to the House by the conferees. The changes made in the labor sections of the bill by the Senate met with the approval of labor because they had been amended, extended and strengthened. The House adopted the conferee report containing the labor sections, by a vote of 244 "ayes," 54 "nays," 4 answering "present," and 129 "not voting."

The representatives from the following states voted as designated:

CALIFORNIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bell, Church, Curry, Kent, Kettner, Nolan, Raker.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Hayes, Kahn.

Not voting—Knowland, Stephens.

COLORADO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Keating, Kindel, Seldomridge, Taylor.

CONNECTICUT.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Donovan, Kennedy, Lonergan, Mahan.

Not voting—Reilly.

ILLINOIS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baltz, Borchers, Buchanan, Copley, Fitzhenry, Foster, Fowler, Gallagher, Gorman, Hill, Hinebaugh, McAndrews, McKenzie, O'Hair, Rainey, Sabath, Stone, Stringer, Tavenner, Thomson, Williams.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Britten, Madden, Mann, Woods.

Not voting—Graham, Hoxworth.

INDIANA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Adair, Barnhart, Cline, Cox, Cullop, Dixon, Gray, Korbly, Lieb, Morrison, Moss, Peterson, Rauch.

IOWA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Good, Green, Haugen, Kennedy, Scott, Towner, Vollmer, Woods.

Not voting—Connolly, Kirkpatrick, Prouty.

KANSAS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Campbell, Connelly, Doolittle, Murdock, Neeley, Taggart.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Anthony.

Not voting—Helvering.

KENTUCKY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barkley, Cantrill, Fields, Johnson, Rouse, Thomas.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Langley, Powers.

Not voting—Helm, Sherley, Stanley.

MARYLAND.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Coady, Lithicum, Smith.

Not voting—Lewis, Talbott.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Dietrick, Gallivan, Gardner, Gilmore, Mitchell, Phelan, Thacher.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Gillett, Paige, Treadway, Winslow.

Not voting—Greene, Roberts, Rogers.

MICHIGAN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Beakes, Cramton, Doremus, Kelley, McLaughlin, MacDonald, Mapes, J. M. C. Smith, Woodruff.

Not voting—Hamilton, Lindquist, S. W. Smith.

Fordney anwe red "present."

MINNESOTA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Anderson, Davis, Hammond, Lindbergh.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Steenerson, Stevens, Volstead.

Not voting—Manahan, Miller, Smith.

MISSOURI.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Alexander, Booher, Decker, Dickinson, Hamlin, Hensley, Igoe, Lloyd, Rubey, Rucker, Russell, Shackleford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Bartholdt.

Not voting—Borland, Rubey.

NEBRASKA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barton, Kinkaid, Lobeck, Maguire, Sloan.

Not voting—Stephens.

NEW JERSEY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baker, Hamill, Hart, Kinkead, Scully, Tuttle, Walsh.

Not voting—Browning, Eagan, Townsend.

NEW YORK.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Bruckner, Cantor, Clancy, Conry, Driscoll, Fitzgerald, Goulden, Griffin, McClellan, Maher, O'Brien, O'Leary, Patten, Riordan, Smith, Talcott, Taylor, Underhill.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Calder, Chandler, Danforth, Dunn, Fairchild, Hamilton, Mott, Parker, Payne, Platt, Wallin.

Not voting—Carew, Dale, Dooling, George, Gittins, Goldfogle, Levy, Loft, Merritt, Metz, Oglesby, Ten Eyck, Wilson.

OHIO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Allen, Ashbrook, Bathrick, Bowdle, Brumbaugh, Bulkley, Claypool, Doolittle, Gard, Goeke, Gordon, Key, Post, Sherwood, Whitacre.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Fess, Switzer, White.

Not voting—Ansberry, Cooper, Francis.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bailey, Carey, Casey, Dershem, Farr, Hulings, Kelly, Lee, Lesher, Logue, Palmer, Portner, Rothermel Rupley, Temple, Vare, Walters.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Butler, Edmonds, Graham, Keister, Kless, Moore, Sheetz.

Not voting—Ainey, Barchfeld, Brodbeck, Burke, Difenderfer, Donohoe, Griest, Kreider, Langham, Lewis, Morin, Patterson.

WASHINGTON.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bryan, Falconer, Johnson, Lafferty.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Humphrey.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Moss, Neely, Sutherland.

Not voting—Avis, Brown, Hughes.

WISCONSIN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Burke, Cary, Frear, Konop, Lenroot, Reilly, Stafford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Browne, Esch, Nelson.

Not voting—Cooper.

UNIONS AND TUBERCULOSIS.

The trades union, with its persistent demand for a reasonable workday, a living wage, sanitary work shops, and the abolition of child labor, is doing more to combat the ravages of tuberculosis than all the doctors and hospitals and sham philanthropists combined. Statistics show that every reduction in the hours of labor is always followed by a decrease in percentage of deaths from the dreaded white plague.—Ex.

If you must talk, talk unionism.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

UNIONISM BASED ON PRINCIPLE.

Every great cause must be based upon a principle that will command the enthusiasm and devotion of the masses of the workers; a principle that will arouse the conscience and stimulate the better qualities inherent in human nature; a principle worthy of support in every emergency in life—in times of prosperity and in times of distress. The trade union movement is the exponent and defender of the principles, which are of vital importance to the potential progress of the human family.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

Gompers Defends R. R. Eight-Hour Movement

At a mass meeting held under the auspices of the Wilson Eight-Hour league in Washington, D. C., on October 13, President Gompers accepted an invitation to speak. He said he was "an eight-hour leaguer from way back," and recalled the successive eight-hour gains made by the trade union movement.

"Nine hour was the battle cry of 66 years," he said, "and of more than 40 years of activity in the cause of labor, justice, freedom and humanity, I have escaped being called a politician until very recently. And recently I have been called a partisan politician by no less a person than a United States Senator from the great state of Illinois."

The speaker stated that he had accepted an invitation by Secretary Olander of the Illinois state Federation of Labor and Secretary Nockels of the Chicago Federation of Labor to reply to Senator Sherman in Chicago on Sunday, October 25.

President Gompers made this reference to the eight-hour movement of employes in the railroad train service:

"I have said that, prior to two in regard to the Adamson law, and then I want to refer to some other instances, some other facts more directly applicable. I declare here and now, from my own knowledge, that the railroad men and their brotherhoods did not ask for the Adamson law. They had declared that the time has come when they were no longer fool and fritter away their time with the quarreling managers who were trying to prove by statistics and to scatter away the confidence of the rank and file with the leadership in the organization. I do not care how often you refer to the railroads. I have considerable traveling to do, and have found in nearly every railroad station there were bulletins. I found in every dining car bulletins. Cullop, Dixon, Gray, Korbly, Lieb, Morrison, Moss, Peterson, Rauch.

IOWA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Good, Green, Haugen, Kennedy, Scott, Towner, Vollmer, Woods.

Not voting—Connolly, Kirkpatrick, Prouty.

KANSAS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Campbell, Connelly, Doolittle, Murdock, Neeley, Taggart.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Anthony.

Not voting—Helvering.

KENTUCKY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barkley, Cantrill, Fields, Johnson, Rouse, Thomas.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Langley, Powers.

Not voting—Helm, Sherley, Stanley.

MARYLAND.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Coady, Lithicum, Smith.

Not voting—Lewis, Talbott.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Dietrick, Gallivan, Gardner, Gilmore, Mitchell, Phelan, Thacher.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Gillett, Paige, Treadway, Winslow.

Not voting—Greene, Roberts, Rogers.

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Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Beakes, Cramton, Doremus, Kelley, McLaughlin, MacDonald, Mapes, J. M. C. Smith, Woodruff.

Not voting—Hamilton, Lindquist, S. W. Smith.

Fordney anwe red "present."

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Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Anderson, Davis, Hammond, Lindbergh.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Steenerson, Stevens, Volstead.

Not voting—Manahan, Miller, Smith.

MISSOURI.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Alexander, Booher, Decker, Dickinson, Gill, Hamlin, Hensley, Igoe, Lloyd, Rubey, Rucker, Russell, Shackleford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Bartholdt.

Not voting—Borland, Rubey.

NEBRASKA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barton, Kinkaid, Lobeck, Maguire, Sloan.

Not voting—Stephens.

NEW JERSEY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baker, Hamill, Hart, Kinkead, Scully, Tuttle, Walsh.

Not voting—Browning, Eagan, Townsend.

NEW YORK.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Bruckner, Cantor, Clancy, Conry, Driscoll, Fitzgerald, Goulden, Griffin, McClellan, Maher, O'Brien, O'Leary, Patten, Riordan, Smith, Talcott, Taylor, Underhill.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Calder, Chandler, Danforth, Dunn, Fairchild, Forth, Dunn, Fairchild, Mott, Payne, Platt.

Not voting—Carew, Dale, Dooling, George, Gittins, Goldfogle, Levy, Loft, Merritt, Metz, Oglesby, Ten Eyck, Wilson.

OHIO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Allen, Ashbrook, Bathrick, Bowdle, Brumbaugh, Bulkley, Claypool, Doolittle, Gard, Goeke, Gordon, Key, Post, Sherwood, Whitacre.

Nay (Unfavorable to Labor)—Switzer.

Not Voting—Ansberry, Brumbaugh, Fess, Francis, White, Wilson.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bailey, Casey, Dershem, Difenderfer, Farr, Donohoe, Griest, Kreider, Lee, Lesher, Logue, Portner, Rupley, Vare.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Barchfield, Edmonds, Kelster, Kless, Moore, Sheetz.

Not voting—Ainey, Brodbeck, Burke, Butler, Carr, Graham, Hulings, Kelly, Langham, Lewis, Morin, Palmer, Rothermel, Shreve, Temple, Walters.

WASHINGTON.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bryan, Falconer, Johnson, Lafferty.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Humphrey, Johnson, La Follette.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Neely, Sutherland.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Avis.

Not Voting—Hughes.

WISCONSIN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Burke, Cary, Frear, Konop, Lenroot, Reilly, Stafford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Browne, Esch, Frear, Nelson.

Not Voting—Burke, Konop, Lenroot.

UNIONISM BASED ON PRINCIPLE.

Every great cause must be based upon a principle that will command the enthusiasm and devotion of the masses of the workers; a principle that will arouse the conscience and stimulate the better qualities inherent in human nature; a principle worthy of support in every emergency in life—in times of prosperity and in times of distress. The trade union movement is the exponent and defender of the principles, which are of vital importance to the potential progress of the human family.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

"The railroads have been demanding from the government and governmental agencies for years an increase in freight rate. They knew, as they know now, and as I am satisfied will be demonstrated to them hereafter, that the eight-hour workday will mean not one penny of addition to the cost, who pays. Not one penny increase caused by operation as per unit. I am willing to trust whatever responsibility I have as a citizen upon that statement being demonstrated in the future.

"But they were willing that the strike should come. They were willing that the public attention of the people should be invited to that question, and that they were supposedly acting under duress and that necessity compelled the concession, and with a flourish of trumpets declaring that they must have increased freight rates. That was the thing.

"The President of the United States called the representatives of the brotherhoods into conference and consulted with them, sympathized with them in their great struggles. And if there is but one thing that I shall lovingly cherish in my heart, it is the great reverence for the man who can do for his fellow men. He expressed the idea and the thought and the feeling that the men who were responsible for demanding an eight-hour workday, and he hoped to prevail upon them that they might give him the opportunity of working out a settlement, an understanding, some relations that would not break and stop the commerce of our country.

"He then went to the railroad managers and conferred with them, consulted them, and asked them to consider the eight-hour day, to grant it, and that all the railroads of the country submit to arbitration. He failed in that and then was confronted, then the country was confronted, with the report of a run on a bank and the of the men who operate the railroads of our country, that unless they were guaranteed the eight-hour day, they would stop work.

"In passing, I want to say a word or two regarding this stopping work. I know the consequences of stopping work. But, my friends, there are many people who would take away from the toilers of our country the right to stop work. I refer to it to remember the fact that the one difference between a slave and a freeman is that a freeman has the right to quit work. No man has the right to commit crime, or make assault upon the property, but he has the right to fold his arms and say nothing and do nothing. It is the great economic force with which we have the freedom to withhold their labor power, and bring unwilling employers to an understanding of their responsibilities to their fellow workers, as well as the responsibilities of workers to their employers.

"The President appealed to that sense condition, and then appealed to the conference that the United States to take cognizance of what was involved. Now I am not one who believes in doing so much talking. I think that the prompt action of the president of the United States in going before the congress of the United States, helping to secure voluntarily, not forced, as the enemies of labor would have the people believe, but voluntarily to meet a situation, was one of the most patriotic committed and performed by any president of the United States in the history of the nation. The man who occupies the great station as president of the United States today, during the period of his holding that position, from the moment he takes the oath of allegiance at the capitol steps and gave forth that wondrous document, the message, every address to congress, his every public utterance have been full of the spirit of humanity, full of that patriotism, full of human kindness, full of great philosophy and understanding, and if the people of our United States fail to do him the justice, to do themselves the justice of a vote of confidence, it will be the first time that a people have inflicted upon themselves in any other time.

"I ask you, my friends, to consider the reverse side of this position. For Mr. Hughes I have only the kindliest personal respect. I think that he is a high-minded, intelligent man, a great jurist, but I ask you whether it is true that an effort to rule the judiciary which has invaded human rights and human freedom have been made by men responding to narrow-minded, capable jurists? Evidently by men made by environment, by hopes and aspirations, by friendship, by contact with the great movement for the uplift of the toilers, the masses of our country.

"Last Monday evening I registered to entitle me to vote in my legal home in Maryland. I consider myself in any political party. I want to be free to support or oppose any man or any party as I see fit. I want to be entirely friendly, or fully and antagonistically to the cause of humanity. I want to say to you, my friends, that I shall not one vote I cast. I have no right to command in order, except to urge you how they should vote. I have the right as a man and as a citizen to present the cause of labor and justice to the people, my fellow citizens, as I see it. If they do not believe with me, they have the right to reject my advice, and my advice, but I have the right to urge, and I urge. I have the right to advise, as I do advise, I have the right to appeal, as I do appeal to the fundamental principles upon which the great republic of ours to see to it that they go to the polls and in accordance with the spirit of humanity that they hope they have for the perpetuation of the principles of institutions in this country, that they vote in accordance with the dictation of their conscience, their hopes for themselves, their wives, their children, their fellow citizens, not only for today but for tomorrow and tomorrow's forthcome, that this republic of ours shall be handed down to our children with a new freedom, a new light, and new aspirations and a new ushering in of that great day when we shall be not only the great workshop of the world, but the true and political freedom, religious liberty and industrial democracy."

Unionism Is Real Friend of Immigrant

The man who comes to our shores seeking an opportunity to improve his lot, if left to his own resources, may find himself in a position no better than that he left behind. In fact, he may, as often follows, find himself in the worse position than formerly. He is a stranger in a strange land, as it were, mocked by the memory of those tales of wealth by which he was lured from home.

In such circumstances the hopes of the newcomer fade and become as "promises writ in the sand at the water's edge." Unfortunately a majority of those who land annually on our shores find themselves in the jaws of conditions that drive into the mills and mines, working under conditions that are destructive to and destroy the mind, living in slums, shacks and bunkhouses, his last condition is that of worse than that from which he fled in poverty and comes to a land of wealth. But he finds himself unable to share in that wealth. He finds that he has no liberty, only to find himself denied access to nature's gifts. He comes inspired by hope, and he finds that "hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul—and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all."

The condition created by the congestion of immigrants in the industrial centers constitutes a serious menace to the institutions of the country. The presence of these institutions is constantly threatened and frequently violated.

To meet this danger, numerous expedients have been devised. These methods have for their object the dissemination of patriotic sentiment by appeal to the people's history and tradition, by teaching politics and civics, and by various exercises calculated to inspire the love for the "flag" and to strengthen devotion to the things of which that emblem is the symbol.

The patriotic address, the flag-raising exercises, the welfare work, however well meant and however commendable, fail to appeal to the emotions, leave untouched the real need of the case, namely, the need to provide for the immigrant his equal opportunity of liberty and full development upon the highest plane of social justice and equality.

The test to which the question of Americanization is subjected by the above exhibits in the comparison between the conditions of labor in the United States and those in countries from which immigrants come. To the extent that the comparison favors the United States we recognize the process of Americanization.

The labor union is a vital factor in Americanization by virtue of its influence in the regulation and control of the conditions of labor. The influence of the labor movement is directed toward protecting the worker in his right to that opportunity which is the distinguishing characteristic of Americanism.

The labor movement is a movement of, by and for the workers. Its interests and objects are limited solely to the promotion of the welfare of the workers between the worker and society at large.

The labor movement, in uniting the workers in a bond of common interest, endows each individual with strength which is the possession of the collectivity, thus enabling him to make his bargain for employment upon the basis of mutuality instead of upon that of force of individual necessitates.

The labor movement is brought to bear upon conditions of labor extends to every detail of the day's work. Wages, hours of labor and conditions are determined by mutual agreement.

The labor movement exerts a powerful influence upon the formulation of public policy, as expressed in the laws of the country. It stands as a bulwark against the encroachment of private interests upon public rights. It is the only movement of fundamental reform in the realm of labor, the only movement that makes for Americanization by making for the establishment in the daily lives of the people of that condition which we regard as the essence of Americanism, the opportunity of full development upon the highest plane of social justice.

To thousands and thousands of immigrants the labor union is the "open door" and to strengthen devotion to the things of which that emblem is the symbol.—Ex.

The patriotic address, the flag-raising exercises, the welfare work, however well meant and however commendable, fail to appeal to the emotions, leave untouched the real need of the case, namely, the need to provide for the immigrant his equal opportunity of liberty and full development upon the highest plane of social justice and equality.

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The labor union is a vital factor in

ORGANIZED LABOR NOT A MENACE

There are those in this enlightened country who speak of the menace of unionism. What does it menace? Why do men join unions? Is it because unionism is a trust, or is it because it is a necessity?

The union man is called upon to make sacrifices. He is not asked for himself to a monopoly. Every benefit he receives he shares with others.

Wherein is unionism a menace.

Does it menace the interests of labor? Lessens it the value of labor? Why not, and what would be the effect on labor? Would the standard of labor be improved or lessened? Would wages be raised or reduced? Would every reduction of hours, and every safeguard of the worker, is due to organized effort.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

The workingman who doesn't believe in trade unions ought to read a little and learn. In the year 1830 the labor day or work day was 11 to 12 hours or from sun to sun. In that year the agitation for the 10-hour day began, became quite common, and resulted in quite a number of strikes. The merchants, manufacturers and employers generally pledged themselves not to employ laborers unless they agreed to work 12 hours per day. But

From 1830 to 1905 the 10-hour contests resulted in a number of strikes and lockouts. The conspiracy laws sent hundreds of our wage-worker fathers and grandfathers to jail. The halter was placed on the slightest pretext, and the labor agitators were openly denounced.—Ex.

Don't "wait for the others." Others are waiting for you. Some must be among the first—why not you?

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

Does it menace a home? It aims to keep the mother in the home and when woman must work to place her on a level with men, to restore the child to the school out of the sweatshop and the street; to secure to the home and children the best possible wages and hours and conditions of labor; to provide for the family in case of illness, accident, unemployment or death.

Does it menace society? What is more needed than the true social spirit? Labor union is the greatest existing generator of the social spirit. It teaches the members to stand together—to look not alone to their own affairs, but each to the affairs of all.

Unionism is a menace to nothing except the things that are a menace to human happiness and advancement.—Ex.

NOT ALONE GRIND AND GRUB.

The labor problem is not confined to work and grub. It has to do as well with the general purposes of life, which Author Burbank writes: "The fact is too often lost sight of, or not known at all, that the basis of the true aristocracy governs the roots." And the wizard proceeds to show that the leaves are of prime importance because in them the food of the tree, in condensed air and sunshine, is made accessible to the tree as a whole. If a tree be rich in foliage, it will be powerful in all its parts, because it has the capacity to take as much nourishment from the air and light. So organized labor recognizes that one development of the higher faculties are imperatively necessary in order that the life may be rich and strong.—Los Angeles Citizen.

Don't forget that organization increases wages and shortens the working day, making work steadier.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

MISSION OF THE CITY CENTRAL BODY

There are many men in every community who question the value of a local trades council if they do not only dust it as a wasteful expenditure of their local money. These may be roughly divided in two classes—those who are not familiar with the duties of the council and those who are not satisfied, for various reasons, with the methods of the several central body. Both of these classes have one point in sympathy—that they refuse to serve as members of the council.

The trades council, or local city, or county central body, by whatever name it may be called, is an essential feature of our trade union movement and to decry or attempt to belittle its influence is a serious mistake. When the dignity and importance of its mission are appreciated and delegates are sent to represent the various locals that are intelligent and sincere workers in the union movement, the council assumes its proper place as the bulwark of the labor movement in its community.

The purpose of a local central labor body are to weld into closer relationship the local unions in its jurisdiction; that they may have the greater influence in the settlement of any disputes that may arise between employer and his members of any affiliated local of the council; second, to make it possible to co-operate in the extension of organization; third, to give an opportunity for harmonious co-operation in the selection of men and measures in political areas.

When the unions in any locality approach their local trades council with a clear understanding of these functions in their mind and make their attainment possible by the selection of their most capable men, there is no dissatisfaction with the work of their central organization. We are of the opinion that when we write that 39 per cent of the dissatisfaction with trades councils can be directly traced to a neglect or an ignorance of the part it plays in the scheme of trade unionism.

The too common method of leaving the responsibility of the work or a trades council to a few willing workers is sure to promote dissatisfaction and discord. It is a work that singularly demands the untiring efforts of the best men in the unions in order that the best results may be achieved. This is not written as a defense of local central bodies, but as an explanation to the many workers who are inclined to underestimate their importance.

Let each union affiliated with the trades councils send their best talent to these organizations, and, if the delegates will enter the work with an appreciation of the importance of the mission is to see the cause of organized labor advance, they will quickly realize the impetus that such a body can give to the movement.—Ex.

TOUCHSTONE OF LABOR'S SUCCESS

The one thing which enlightens every labor organizations is power. Power is necessary to make these organizations effective. Some employers have officially indorsed the organizations of the "proper kind." Of course the proper kind in their estimation is the carefully expurgated edition from which all evidences of power have been carefully repressed. Such institutions would be labor organizations in name only.

Only where organizations have power do they have effectiveness in bring, benefits to members of their membership. Power cannot exist unless there exist the sinews and munitions for sustained resistance when demanded and used. The power of an organization is related in a very vital sense to membership and to the private spender that constitutes the union control over these benefits removes all doubt of such assistance in unofficial disputes.

Labor organizations embody an ideal, but that ideal must rest upon a practical basis if it is to become a reality. The practical resources to make any ideal reality depend in some degree upon the existence of resources at command. The question of higher dues is one of fundamental importance to all workers. It is a matter that must not be pushed aside. It is a matter that should be given most careful and wise consideration. It is a fundamental matter because the dues paid in a large measure determine the power of the organization to protect for the cause of human welfare.—President Gompers.

Unity Paves Way for Industrial Freedom

Organization is the way whereby the toilers of the world have finally come into rights and have secured greater opportunities. Workers of all callings have learnt that they are simply units of human welfare that are of paramount importance. Working and living conditions have come to be associated with these principles of human welfare when the workers themselves have a proper conception of the value of unity and the moral courage to make vigorous, sustained effort to realize their ideals.

It is an old adage that "he who would be free himself must strike the blow." Since time began mankind has been struggling toward higher civilization, has been seeking a nobler, freer, higher earthly life. The progress may be viewed in the family who lead the struggle are those possessed of a high degree of moral courage. It is a struggle. It is a battle for rights, for existence, from beginning to end. And as it is a truth that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," so in the realm of human action than in any other way, for in the end the right is bound to prevail.

Experience has shown for hundreds of years that laborers and artisans can secure better reward by collective bargaining than by any other means; hence the labor union. Experience has also shown that no man can take out of a union more than he may put in. Hence the necessity to regard the union as an instrument for the common good only, a means for general defense, a plan of action which, helping the individual, raises the standards of life for all concerned.

Organization is the way. It makes men free; it makes men fair; it makes men generous. It is the way by which men are fair, when men are courageous, they achieve their heart's desire, then and then only.

Let us hold up the banner of organization for this is the only banner by which that we may all soon say with Lowell:

"I honor the man who is ready to sink
All his present repute for the freedom to think,
And when he has thought, he his cause
Speaks fearless for truth and the right,
Will sink to her half for the freedom to speak."

Caring naught for what vengeance the mob has in store,
Let that mob be the upper ten thousand or lower."

—Charles Perry Taylor, secretary Washington State Federation of Labor.

WHAT UNIONISM MEANS

The masses are fast learning the lesson that the trades union movement is the only agency upon which their hopes for better their economic condition and raise their standard of livelihood in society as it is constituted at the present time. The labor union has been unmistakably demonstrated to wage-earners in all callings and professions the most powerful agency for securing higher wages, better jobs, and more comfortable homes; that it means more money with which to buy the needs of modern man, and thus create a better business for the community in which they reside. The labor unions and aspirations of the organizations of labor means enthused life in the social and business world. They are looked upon as a factor that society as a whole is also beginning to learn, for there is no denying the fact that organization is viewed in a far different light by the general public today than it was, even as recently as a few years ago. The result is that what is even more significant, public sentiment is being more and more swayed by the very principles that the unions persistently advocated many years back.

There is a steady increase in the membership of the older trades bodies. From the very nature of things if the unions maintain their present headway and the making of late there can be no denying the fact that in the very near future they will be the dominating factor in the community.

To dam back this tide of beneficent effort is an impossibility. As each day sees it moving on with added momentum, its ranks growing stronger and its influence more far-reaching, so the passing years every effort to arrest its progress has ended in failure; for it is the spirit of humanity that can be retarded, only at last to see all barriers swept aside while the onward movement goes on unabated and unabated power. The labor movement lives, and will continue to live, just as long as it battles for the rights of the working class.

Unionism and progress march hand in hand, and will succeed because unionism is that which it strives to be, and means so much for the welfare and liberty of the race.—Industrial Banner.

Unionism Defended.

"My interest in the labor question comes from a study of the world's social history. I have traced the onward sweep of the industrial revolution, with its factory system, its use of steam and electricity, giant machines of iron and steel, tumultuous cities with their smoke and their wild, mad lives. I have seen it throw manhood, womanhood, childhood and old age into its furnaces. I have seen it bend the pliant backs of little children in filthy mines; I have seen it chain fellow sufferers to their work. Wherever I have seen it sever limbs, put out eyes, destroy reason, steal opportunity, and blast hope, there the spirit of enlargement, and seen it take life by the thousands. I have seen it mock at law, at justice, at Peel, Dastler, Fielding, Ashley—appeal to the conscience of the world; not to speak of Moses, Isaiah, Christ, Paul, Wesley, Kingsley. I have seen the era of humanitarian factory legislation begin. I have seen it enter. I have seen the rise and legalization of labor's own organization. I have seen the abolition of its secret and have rejoiced in it and its achievements. I find myself in substantial accord with the general purposes of labor, but in no specific aims. I hold it God-speed in its future, and pray that it may be wise, considerate and good-natured, for its own good and for that of the community."—Sidney Webb, professor of history and political science, Richmond (Va.) College.

PROTESTS AGAINST INJUSTICE.

The trade union movement is a standing protest against commercial selfishness and greed; it is an active protest against economic and social injustice; it is a defender of the weak against the strong; it unites all workers, both male and female, skilled and unskilled, to join hands with the men and women battling for a brighter future and a higher standard of civilization.—Ex.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

Develop Union First—Then Make Demands

The trade union movement in growth is not unlike many other things and beings that grow. The tree or the plant which grows rapidly and matures quickly is the one that decays first. The child that grows rapidly, while the sturdy oak, which grows slowly, lasts forever. The child born prematurely often is unfitted for the obligations of mature life, and, moreover, often meets an early death. So it is with the trade union movement. The movement which grows slowly and acts deliberately and thoughtfully and with prudence endures forever, while the union of mushroom growth, in which the members have had no experience and is therefore lacking in proper leadership often makes mistakes that are fatal to its welfare. If this is regrettable, it is not to be wondered at, "If the many unions now organized had grown up gradually and among so-called unskilled trades and trades that are partly so, could be restrained in making demands until they had first mastered the first rudiments of trade union ethics and self-government in economics, greater progress would be made in the future. Many unions now being formed organize today and go on strike for the acceptance of the principles and aspirations of the workers rather than the aspirations of the workers themselves. Many unions are formed without any organization for the purpose of securing an increase of wages and shorter hours and form a union after they are on strike. These efforts meet with varied and indifferent success. There is not much danger to the old, substantial, well-governed unions with years of experience back of them, from a trade union, provided the present membership will not be misled into pursuing the road to the goal be shortened by many years.—Ex.

Don't let so-called "independence" prevent you from being insolvable. We are all dependent on someone or something. "No man stands alone." Get closer together.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 6. NO. 30. WASHINGTON D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1916 WHOLE NO. 290.

STATEMENT BY LABOR REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE

To the Officers of all Organized Labor:

Greeting: Never at any time within the last fifty years have the workers had more at stake in any political campaign than in the one that is to be decided in the election November 7.

During the present administration and particularly in this campaign there has been developed a clear-cut issue between the workers—the producers—and those who manipulate the products of the labor of others—the exploiters.

The issue is represented in the campaign by the conflicting interests represented by Labor and Wall street. Labor represents the masses of the nation, their rights as human beings, the possibilities and the ideals of human development. Wall street represents the powers of greed and exploitation that have mercilessly used human beings in order to pile up vast unearned fortunes and to carry out their purposes of restricting the rights and opportunities for men to work and enjoy the products of their toil.

During the present administration the organized labor movement has been able to secure recognition for the rights of human beings and opportunity for all to participate in the affairs of the nation in a degree that has never before been accomplished.

Though half of the world has been involved in a terrific conflict and it seemed at times as though our nation must be drawn into the vortex of human slaughter, yet the chief executive of our land has been able to manage the affairs of the nation and the interests of our citizens so that without the horrors of war he has established and maintained protection of human life and human rights in the somewhat vague domain of international law. Without involving this nation in war, he has secured for us all of the protection and all of the benefits that would have accrued from a successful international war, and by diplomatic correspondence, has achieved the victory of embodying concepts of humanity in international activity, at least in so far as America is concerned.

What has been true in the case of the European war is also true in the case with the relations between our country and Mexico. Mexico had been engaged in a convulsive effort to secure freedom and to shake off the despotic control of personal rule and spoilation to benefit those who have been granted special privileges. In their vague uncertain efforts to free themselves the people of Mexico may have made mistakes. Have the people of the United States always been free from error? Mexico is trying to work out its ideals of rights and justice.

The interests that have been seeking to plunge our country into war not only with European countries but also with Mexico are the interests that are represented by the most selfish and most conscienceless element of Wall street. These elements have not stopped with an effort to use existing mistakes and wrongs as an excuse for war and have not hesitated to endeavor to create situations that brought the nation to the very brink of war. It was only by the determined resistance of the citizens who understood that an element of recklessableness was injected into the situation and action prevented until the true facts could be discovered and the will of the masses of the citizens could prevent the evil purposes and designs.

So far as the internal affairs of our country are concerned, the organized labor movement, as the authorized representative of the wage-earners, has demanded for them the right of participation in all the affairs of the nation and has secured recognition of that demand to a degree never before realized. Men have come from among those who do the nation's work have occupied high places in the councils of the nation and have had a hearing and an influence when matters were under consideration that affected the interests and the welfare of the masses.

During the past four years there has been enacted by congress and signed by President Wilson humanitarian protective legislation unprecedented in amount and scope. Legislative enactment has secured to wage-earners fundamental rights necessary for the very existence of the organizations of labor without which wage-earners would have nothing of freedom and no real opportunity for self-betterment. Not only have labor organizations been given the right to exist but the activities necessary to make those organizations effective have been declared legitimate and not contrary to any law of the United States.

The American seamen, the last group of workers who could under law be compelled to perform compulsory service, have been made free men and given the right to quit their ships when in safe harbors.

After many years of effort a child labor law has been secured, due directly to the influence and intervention of President Wilson. The law is fundamental, for it protects the children—the future citizens of the country—and secures for them an opportunity to develop into manhood and womanhood without being stunted and dwarfed in mind and body by work unsuited to their development and strength.

Due to the initiative of President Wilson, the congress extended the United States eight-hour law to include the workmen engaged in the operation of the railroad train service of the country and a great national strike was thus averted.

It is impossible to give the full list of remedial and protective legislation that carries its beneficent influences into the homes of millions of America's workers. We can only refer to that change in the spirit of the nation that is of more consequence than statutory enactment, with broader appreciation of the rights of humanity and the value of the human relationships necessary in the co-ordination which is the basis for industry and commerce. It is as if the national thought and the national spirit had been humanized and had become more sensitive not only to injustice but to the rights and opportunities that ought to be accorded to all human beings. The issue is clear-cut.

On November 7th—election day—a decision will be made which will determine the future development of our country and the spirit of our national life for years to come.

As representatives of the organized labor movement, which is the militant protective organization of all the workers and which stands primarily for human rights, WE URGE THAT THE ISSUES BE CONSIDERED AT A REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING HELD BY YOUR ORGANIZATION.

The meeting should be a general one, and, if necessary, called specially for the purpose of seeing that those who have so much at stake should go to the polls to protect their interests.

There is no doubt that the interests of Wall street and their satellites all over the country are and will continue their activity to retain the special privileges and power that they have, secretively and corruptly stolen from the people.

While property must be protected and respected, man—men, women and children, human beings—must have the first consideration.

Wage-earners can not afford to lose their rights and opportunities through negligence and inaction.

Meet, discuss the great issues to be decided on election day, November 7th, and then go to the polls, cast your vote as your conscience directs for Labor, justice, freedom and humanity.

Fraternally yours,

Samuel Gompers.

President, A. F. of L.

Jno. O'Connell

Vice-President, A. F. of L.

Frank Morrison

Secretary, A. F. of L.

Labor Representation Committee, American Federation of Labor.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 14, 1916.

Labor's Political Success Based on Non-Partisanship

The Labor Representation Committee, consisting of President Gompers, Vice President O'Connell and Secretary Morrison of the A. F. of L., has issued a call to organized labor to consider the issues involved in the present political campaign at a regular or special meeting of their unions, and urges that all workers go to the polls on election day, November 7, and protect their interests.

The Labor Representation Committee was appointed by the executive council of the A. F. of L. in 1906, when the American Federation of Labor decided to more vigorously urge its nonpartisan political policy—that trade unionists disregard political lines and reward their friends and punish their enemies.

The success of this policy has been unequaled in the history of the world's trade union movement and the Labor Representation Committee, following its usual policy, presents the issues involved in this campaign and calls on all workers to go to the polls on November 7 and vote as their conscience directs for labor, justice, freedom and humanity.

"The American labor movement is not partisan to a political party; it is partisan to a principle, the principle of equal rights and human freedom."—Denver convention of the A. F. of L., 1908.

BRICKLAYERS ARE IN LINE

Washington, Oct. 21.—The American Federation of Labor has issued a charter to the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America.

While an agitation for affiliation has been conducted for years among the bricklayers, definite action was taken at their recent convention, held in Toronto, Canada, when the international executive was empowered to act.

In the charter application, signed by President Bowen and Secretary Dobson, it stated that there are 912 local unions, with a membership of 70,000, affiliated to this international.

In a telegram to President Bowen of the bricklayers, dated October 12, President Gompers says:

"The charter for your international union has been issued today. I welcome your organization into the family of trade unions of America under the banner of the American Federation of Labor."

The A. F. of L. executive supplemented these fraternal expressions with a letter in which he said, in part:

"It is gratifying beyond measure to know that due to the efforts of many of us continued over a long period of years that your international has finally come into the family of trade unions under the banner of the American Federation of Labor. I am confident that this action will have great influence with the few international unions still unaffiliated, and that the day is near at hand when it can be truthfully said that every bona fide international and local trade union of America will be banded together in the bonds of unity, fraternity and solidarity in the most beneficient voluntary association of the workers existing anywhere in the world, the American Federation of Labor."

CHESTER GETTING IN LINE.

Chester, Pa., Oct. 21.—The spirit of trade unionism is becoming active and militant in this city and vicinity and new unions are being lined up. The active workers in a very encouraging way. Recently the plumbers reorganized and they have already secured contracts with the bosses recognizing the union, granting increased wages and a lessening of the hours.

The barbers are also a new organization and have already secured an agreement for a betterment of their conditions.

Following the formation of these unions there was an agitation started for the formation of a central labor body. Success has followed and an application has been made to the American Federation of Labor for a charter. The new body will be composed of nearly all the unions in Chester and vicinity and good results are anticipated.

LONG STRIKE ADJUSTED.

Woonsocket, R. I., Oct. 21.—The strike of the weavers at the Prendergast mills at Bridgeton, which began April 18, ended when the strikers accepted a report from a committee which had a conference with the management of the mills.

The weavers demanded an increase in wages. being refused a strike resulted. It is reported that the weavers will get an increase and the Saturday night operatives will go to work under a new schedule with higher wages in every department. About 320 employes are affected.

DEMAND HIGHER WAGES.

Milwaukee, Oct. 21.—Upholsterers' unions are conducting an agitation for higher wages, and an affiliation with A. F. of L. It is stated that workers in this industry are among the lowest paid of the skilled crafts in Milwaukee.

VICTORY FOR UPHOLSTERERS.

Baltimore, Oct. 21.—After a strike lasting four weeks the Upholsterers' union has finally won a substantial victory, all the firms signing the new wage increase and granting a reduction in hours.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

A "WIDE AWAKE" EDITOR.

Hamilton, Ontario, Oct. 21.—The Hamilton Herald editor has discovered why the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress has called on the government to repeal the Lemieux act.

Canadian workers opposed the law because it denies them the right to quit their employment for 30 days, when engaged in public utilities. They say it is an interference with their freedom, and that its operation is one-sided.

But Canadian trade unionists are discovered by the wide awake Herald editor, who charges Dominion organized workers with a tendency to "slavishly accept the ideas of the American Federation of Labor."

President Gompers, according to this writer, is to blame. Canadian workers have no ideas of their own.

It is well known, continues the editor, "that President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, is bitterly hostile to the Lemieux act, and the proposal to introduce legislation in the United States congress based on the Canadian measure. It is not improbable that in adopting the resolution favoring the repeal of the act the Dominion Trades Congress was influenced by a desire to please the A. F. of L. president and furnish him with the fighting material that he desires."

STRUCK TO GET RECOGNITION.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 21.—After a strike of nine days on the lines of the Oklahoma Electric Railway company the manager has consented to recognize the representatives of a new union of Amalgamated Street Carmen's union and reinstate all the men discharged for joining it. When it was discovered by the manager of the company that a union of the company's men was being formed he purged the union of those discharged and all who were reported as being members. The men being forced to protest themselves sought an interview. That was refused, and a strike resulted. A member of the state board of arbitration was then called in. He got busy with the manager of the company and after several conferences a settlement was reached that gives the union full recognition, the reinstatement of all discharged members and an agreement to arbitrate all differences in the future.

CORN HUSKERS HAVE UNION.

Danville, Ill., Oct. 21.—Corn huskers in Middlefork township have formed a union and are demanding 4 cents a bushel where the farmer has a corn dump and 5½ when they are compelled to scoop it. The price includes bed and board while they are at work.

The average corn husker can husk from 75 to 100 bushels a day and at the rates proposed by the union they make from $3.36 to $4.00 a day with board and sleeping quarters. The scale is 1 cent above what the farmers are offering in the local callities. The union has about 100 members and, owing to scarcity of labor because of extensive building here in the county, the union threatens to cause a great trouble among the corn huskers.

MILK WAGON DRIVERS GAIN.

Toronto, Ont., Oct. 21.—Milk wagon drivers have about concluded negotiations with large dairies in this city. The union is recognized, a $16 weekly minimum is agreed to, and drivers will not be responsible for debts. Employers also agree to one day in fourteen and seven holidays a year, with pay.

BOILER MAKERS GET 45 CENTS.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 21.—Negotiations have been under way for some two weeks between the boiler makers and their employers over an increase in wages. The differences were finally amicably adjusted by the employers agreeing to pay in the future 45 cents an hour.

Is a justice of the Supreme Court whose decisions have always been against Labor likely to protect or promote the rights and interest of Labor if he were to become President?

A STUDY IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Washington, Oct. 21.—Interesting findings from the conclusions for the prevention of industrial accidents at the Washington navy yard are published as the result of a study of all such cases by Passed Assistant Surgeon Bloedorn of the navy. The investigation covered the period of two years beginning January 1, 1914. The average number of men employed was 4,711. The total number of men reporting one or more injuries was 2,175. Of the 4,711 injuries, 1,563 were received by the hands. This alone, it is said, puts it 8.5 per cent of the total number of men injured received over 26 per cent of the total number of injuries.

The three most frequent injuries received, in the order of their frequency, were lacerations, contusions and foreign bodies in the eye. Five injuries resulted fatally, three being caused by falling objects, one being the result of a fall and one being caused by machinery. The six shops showing the highest percentage of injuries in their relative order were the sight, cartridge case, gunners' workshop, miscellaneous, press and erecting.

"Power-driven machinery," says Surgeon Bloedorn, "is a fruitful source of injury, and one that may be counteracted through various safety devices. The high-speed machines, such as grinders, circular and band saws, and high-speed lathes, are particularly dangerous and require the use of safety devices. The heavy, slow-speed machines, such as planers, shapers, slotters and slow-speed lathes, are comparatively less hazardous.

"Work with hand tools and simple apparatus exposes the workman to frequent injuries, mostly of the nature of wounds of the upper extremities, particularly of the fingers and hands, the majority of which are slight and cause no loss of time. Carrying, lifting and transportation resulted in a relatively small percentage of injuries, including muscular strains, bruises and sprains due to lifting and carrying. Injuries with dangerous substances, such as molten metal, live wires and the various caustic solutions, was responsible for a small number of injuries.

Employes between the ages of 16 and 20 received the greatest number of injuries. The percentage decreases from there to those between the ages of 50 and 70. Although engaged in less hazardous work as a rule colored employes showed a higher injury rate. Unmarried employes are more prone to injured than married. The injury rate was markedly higher during the first six months of employment and decreased as the length of time employed increased. Skilled workers showed the lowest percentage of injuries, with helpers and apprentices highest. It is stated that "individuals differ greatly in their susceptibility to injury, although engaged in the same class of work, and that this susceptibility to injury varies in the same individual from time to time."

It is recommended that special attention be given the new employe until he becomes thoroughly acquainted with his machine or tool, and with his fellow-workmen, and that he be instructed in the character of his work.

"That specialists be made to assist accident during the first two-hour period of the day, which is considered the most dangerous period of employment.

"That the employes who appear most susceptible to injury be given particular attention and efforts made to decrease their susceptibility to injury, either by correcting any physical defects which exist or by instruction and education along the lines of accident prevention.

"That the use of goggles be further made compulsory for all employes engaged in work which exposes the eyes to injury, goggles to be furnished, provided that these goggles be fitted to each man individually so that they fit the orbital margin snugly and render the workman immune to injury when he does wear them, and that extra lenses be provided in sufficient quantities so that when a lens becomes disfigured by flying chips which become embedded in the glass and interfere with vision it may be replaced by a new lens.

"That particular attention be given the shops that show a high percentage of injuries and those that show a high loss of time per man.

"That exposed shafts, belts, pulleys, flywheels, gears, circular and band saws, and emery wheels be provided with guards wherever practicable."

WINDOW CLEANERS GAIN.

New York, Oct. 21.—After a two weeks' strike Window Cleaners' Protective union No. 15,156, affiliated to the A. F. of L., has won a complete victory and secured the following gains: Wages increased averaging 30 per cent; the eight-hour day; pay for eight holidays; all day for rainy days; time and one-half for over-time; double time for Sundays and holidays, if worked in emergency cases. This union was chartered by the A. F. of L. last June and the gains made by it is another refutation of the claim that the A. F. of L. is only interested in the so-called "skilled" workers, although no one has ever defined the dividing line between a "skilled" and an "unskilled" worker.

A. F. of L. Organizer Frayne, who assisted in the negotiations, declares the agreement is one of the best that is possible to obtain. As a result of the strike, he adds, the membership of the union has increased by several hundreds.

COMPENSATION BOARD RULING.

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 21.—The state workmen's compensation board has ruled that the dependents of an injured workman can not be denied compensation simply because the patient insists upon being taken from one hospital to another. The board also rules that the rights of dependents are not prejudiced simply because surgeons perform some very complicated operations that are "necessary" from a technical standpoint, but which are followed by the death of the patient.

PACKERS SIGN AN AGREEMENT.

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 21.—After negotiations covering two weeks the packers representing five of the largest firms here signed an agreement with Butcher Workers' union, it being the first one ever secured by the union. No wage increase was involved. The other firms are expected to follow in a short time. The union has been formed only since May 1.

PUDDLERS RAISE WAGES.

Danville, Pa., Oct. 21.—More than 300 employes of the Reading Iron company have received an advance of 50 cents a ton. The rate is now $7.50 a ton; a year ago it was $4.50.

On good authority it is asserted that candidate Hughes wears a "Loewe Danbury Hat" as under it carries its spirit

DR. PARKHURST DISSENTS.

New York, Oct. 21.—Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst is not a politician although he occasionally talks like one. The reverend gentleman's latest outburst is over the eight-hour law for railroad employes. He said: "We are made to understand the destructive genius by which it is proposed to get off with the least amount of labor."

"Whether this ruffianly assault should have been yielded to or not is a question by itself, just as it is a question whether one should yield to the call of the wayman who demands money or life. In either case, submission to the assault is attended by a sense of unspeakable humiliation, and leaves in the mind of the victim a sting that will continue to rankle deep down among the nerves."

OHIO UNIONISTS MEET.

Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 21.—"The best convention in the history of the federation," is the unanimous verdict of every delegate to the state federation of labor, which held its annual convention in this city last week.

Secretary-Treasurer Donnally reported that 290 locals had affiliated during the year, making a total of 762 affiliations with nearly 400 accredited delegates. President Voll and other officers were re-elected and two additional vice presidents were created. The salary of Secretary Donnally was increased.

CIGAR MAKERS WIN INCREASE.

Tampa, Fla., Oct. 21.—Striking cigar makers and representatives of nine factories have reached an agreement by which some 1,500 strikers will get 50 per cent of the wage increase they sought.

All the men agreed to work except employes of two factories, who have not yet accepted the compromise.

The demand for higher pay involved only these employes working in factory departments where cigars are manufactured by the "mould process." The wage increases granted vary according to the different classes of "mould" cigars.

PULP WORKERS WIN.

Appleton, Wis., Oct. 21.—The Pulp and Sulphite Workers' union has won three-months' strike against the Riverside mills. The company agrees to recognize the union and there will be no discrimination against the organization.

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MR. LEE WANTS "LIGHT."

Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 21.—In an address to the American Electric Railway association Ivy L. Lee, of New York, suggested that trained publicists be employed so that editors would consider such matter authentic and publish it on its merits.

Trade unionists in this city are wondering if the Rockefeller interests are preparing to cast adrift Mr. Lee, and if he is attempting to cast an anchor to windward by making this suggestion to electric railway employers.

During the recent strike of Colorado miners, Lee had charge of the operators' end and a publication and propaganda along the lines of accident prevention.

That the use of safety goggles be made compulsory for all employes engaged in work which exposes the eyes to injury from flying particles, provided that these goggles be fitted to each man individually so that they fit the orbital margin snugly and render the workman immune to injury when he does wear them, and that extra lenses be provided in sufficient quantities so that when a lens becomes disfigured by flying chips which become embedded in the glass and interfere with vision it may be replaced by a new lens.

"That particular attention be given the shops that show a high percentage of injuries and those that show a high loss of time per man.

"That exposed shafts, belts, pulleys, flywheels, gears, circular and band saws, and emery wheels be provided with guards wherever practicable."

VOTE TO REMAIN LOYAL.

New York, Oct. 21.—By a five to one vote the members of 63 local unions of the Brotherhood of Carpenters have voted to accept the recommendations of the general executive board elected by the recent Fort Worth convention.

These unions were suspended because of their violation of laws in connection with their wage movement last summer. They then secured an injunction against the General President Hutcheson, of the brotherhood. At the Fort Worth convention, after a full investigation, the general officers were sustained and the New Yorkers ordered to withdraw the injunction as the first requisite of reinstatement, which must be worked out under the direction of the general officers, who have been unyielding in their demand that the brotherhood's laws be complied with.

ONLY REQUIRED ONE DAY.

Spokane, Wash., Oct. 21.—The linemen employed by the Pacific States Telephone company were compelled to strike to secure the discharge of an incompetent foreman who was daily endangering their lives. An amicable adjustment of the matter had been pending for a month, the company refusing to give a definite answer to the men's request. In order to force the issue the union met and instructed its members to cease work in one day's time the objectionable foreman was released and the strikers returned to work.

ONE HOUR LESS AND $3 RAISE.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 21.—After being on strike for three days the newly organized bushelmen's branch of the Tailors' union secured an increase of $3 in wages and reduction of one hour in working time. Repeated efforts had previously been made to secure a settlement of their differences with the bosses, but were unsuccessful owing to the fact that a bona fide offer had been put by each employer to not make any concession to the men and women employed in that branch of the ready-made clothing industry.

UPHOLSTERERS WIN STRIKE.

Baltimore, Oct. 21.—Upholsterers' unions 101 and 104 have been waging a battle for the past month, completely tying up all the shops in the city. A settlement has been reached and the workers have returned to work, securing their demands. The winning of the strike is considered a big victory.

FREIGHT HANDLERS STRIKE.

Niagara Falls, Ontario, Oct. 21.—Freight handlers employed in the Grand Trunk Railroad yards are on strike for $2.25 a day. The company insists on a piece work system.

A vote for candidate Hughes is a vote to endorse his decision by which the Danbury hatters in their old age were robbed of their savings and the homes which sheltered them.

ILLINOIS MINERS ARE STILL ON STRIKE

Chicago, Oct. 21.—Secretary Olander of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, has issued a statement in which he says, from Springfield that the strike of Rossiere, Illinois, miners has been adjusted.

"The statement is incorrect," says Olander. "The outrages of the gunmen have been checked by action of state authorities, but the mining company continues its fight against the union and the men are still on a strike. Financial aid to support the families of the strikers is needed."

Rossiere is located in Hardin county. In the extreme southern end of this state. There are not a labor organization in that county until the miners organized because of low wages, long hours and poor working conditions.

The 12-hour work day was common, and dismissal followed a man's refusal to labor on Sunday. State laws, intended to safeguard the lives and health of miners, were disregarded, and these workers were compelled to stand in water while at work.

These conditions forced the men to unite. No trade unionist assisted them. The organization idea grew, but finally "company men" made their usual report and a large number of miners were discharged. The men then appointed a committee to confer with the management, which declared that if they did not like conditions they could quit. Under the circumstances their only alternative was strike. Guards and thugs were imported by the company and a reign of terror started. Several hundred people were driven from Hardin county by the gunmen, who have since been checked by the state authorities.

These miners produce spar, a mineral that is very important in industry, including war munitions. Practically all the spar in this country comes from Hardin county, and the owners of this mineral have reaped untold wealth.

As the stock of spar is being reduced because of the strike, officers of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, who are assisting the strikers, are confident that victory is assured if the strikers are given prompt financial assistance.

MILWAUKEE MACHINISTS GAIN.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 21.—Machinists in this city are winding their eight-hour strike, reports Emmett Adams, organizer of the International Association of Machinists. The strike started May 15, and involved 4,500 machine shop workers.

Settlements have been reached in 33 shops through conferences of the management with committees appointed by the men. These shops, employing 1,500 men, are working 48 hours or less a week. Five shops, employing 1,600, are working 50 hours or less a week. Two other shops, employing 3,000 men, are working 52½ hours a week. At the beginning of the campaign Milwaukee was known as a 55-hour a week town. The average wage increased from under 31 cents an hour to 34½ cents an hour.

UNION OF HOUSEMAIDS.

Boston, Oct. 21.—Minimum wage for housemaids, $7 a week; working time, ten hours a day. This is the outcome of the organization of the Pittsfield Servant Girls' union, which it is predicted will likely spread to Boston. Formerly housemaids in Pittsfield could be hired for $5 a week.

These housemaids are seeking to affiliate the washerwomen and scrubwomen, who are also demanding a minimum of $2 a day instead of the $1.50, they now receive.

MINERS SECURE INCREASE.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 21.—Organized miners in this state have accepted the employers' compromise which provides for a 5 per cent increase for day workers and 5 per cent for tonnage workers. Wage differences resulted in a suspension of work for about a week.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER
SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 1916.

Entered as second-class matter, September 10, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Issued from the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

SAMUEL GOMPERS ..... President
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

JAMES DUNCAN ..... First Vice President
Hancock Building, Quincy, Mass.

JAMES O'CONNELL ..... Second Vice President
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

D. A. HAYES ..... Third Vice President
930 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

JOSEPH F. VALENTINE ..... Fourth Vice President
Commercial Tribune Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

JOHN R. ALPINE ..... Fifth Vice President
401-406 Bush Temple of Music, Chicago, Ill.

H. B. PERHAM ..... Sixth Vice President
Star Building, St. Louis, Mo.

FRANK DUFFY ..... Seventh Vice President
Carpenters' Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

WILLIAM GREEN ..... Eighth Vice President
1102-1105 Merchants' Bank Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

JOHN B. LENNON ..... Treasurer
Bloomington, Illinois.

FRANK MORRISON ..... Secretary
A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

FEELING WITH LABOR

By John D. Barry.

W. D. Howells once said of Tolstoi that he could not wholly share the feelings of the poor, for the reason that, in spite of wearing the peasant garb and working in the fields, he could not know "the dread and fear of want." And Howells's readers say virtually the same thing about the more aristocratic champions of labor. And many laboring people feel the same way toward their well-dressed adherents.

In a sense this view is right. In another sense it is misleading. For labor's are few people in the world, poor or rich, that are wholly free from "the dread and fear of want."

Not one of us is absolutely secure.

"The dread and fear of want" is a recognized disease among millions. But it goes with too much as well as too little. In fact, there is something to be gained by coming face to face with want. It is like meeting disaster that we have feared all our lives. Here it is. Now we can grapple with it. As a rule, we find it is not nearly so formidable in reality as it was in imagination. When it entered only as a remote chance we could not get into action. We could not fight. Now all the forces of our being rouse to join battle. In the resistance they may be a kind of joy.

One of those millionaires who are not much more than respectable gamblers, a plunger in the stock market, once told me that he expected to be poor some day. He was carefully bringing his children up to be ready to meet poverty. They were all trained to do some kind of work. "I am not afraid," he said, "and I have taught them not to be afraid."

But I thought that in the tone of his voice I could detect fear.

I know a man born to wealth and to all that wealth implies who is devoting his life to the cause of labor. Very keenly he feels the gulf between the laboring people and himself. He has taken a curious pride in his strides in. He wears poor clothes. His living expenses he has reduced to a mere trifle. His sisters. He subjects himself to discomforts. His fastidiousness, natural and developed, often revolts at the ugliness and the wretchedness of his surroundings. But it is powerless against his will. He has succeeded in persuading the laborers to accept him as one of themselves. But cynicals would say that, like Tolstoi, he could never actually share their feelings. That would always be a difference between them and him. He could never be one of them. And yet I believe that his very sacrifice proves his sincerity and makes him worthy of what he is becoming, a labor leader. Because of a certain unreality in his attitude he deserves not less credit but more.

And yet in spite of all my reasoning I feel that there is a difference. I was impressed on me recently by an incident that occurred at the close of a labor leader's trial. In the courtroom sat a laboring man who for years had been an admirer of that leader. When the jury came in to render its decision he sat up straight, and yet I could see white. As soon as he heard the verdict he burst into tears. For a long time he was unable to control himself. Afterward some one asked him how he happened to be so moved. He replied that it was not merely for personal reasons, not because the acquittal meant so much to their labor and to him, "I have been in the fight all my life. I have done the hardest kind of work, the kind that kills many. I have been a stoker and I have shoveled coal for hours at a time, next to a furnace, practically naked, with the sweat pouring over my body. I have seen men go almost crazy with the heat, and I've seen a few days I have seen them die of the work. And I have seen men who have been hurt and crippled but for the fact that other, and entirely different, arguments have been raised to keep them at work.

The opponents of the labor movement accuse the leaders by attacking. This claims which it has not made, claims which, on the contrary, it has distinctly and emphatically disclaimed. They insist that the non-unionist who seeks to share these conditions shall first agree to share the labor and expenditures necessary to their maintenance—in other words, to submit to be a member of the union. Such, in essence, is the whole argument for the union shop, or the so-called "closed shop." It is an argument every whit as sound as that of the castaways, and its soundness would be generally accepted if it were not distorted but for the fact that other, and entirely different, arguments have been raised to keep them at work.

He was an idealist, this man. There are many like him. They have had the iron driven into their souls. They know the meaning of the anguish of labor. They are the sustainers of the world that has burden bearers, the toilers in grime and sweat. In their hearts they have one hope, one dream, the emancipation of their children from the wretchedness of his surroundings. But it is powerless against his will. chance.

Labor Refuses to be Tied to Its Work

Various plans have been devised from time to time trying to insure peaceful relations between capital and labor. Numerous persons are trying to find a solution of the labor problem. Some try to do it by profit-sharing or bonus systems; others try to do it by welfare schemes, and still others try to do it by legislation.

For quite a number of years there have been various attempts made to connect laws providing for compulsory arbitration of industrial disputes. The effort has been to use the power of the State to compel both employing corporations and their employees to conform their activities regardless of any objections they may have as to wages or conditions of work.

There are two fundamental troubles with this plan. In the first place, every man feels that his labor is his own property and no one, not even the State, can force him to part with it, for that would be involuntary servitude, a crime. Therefore a law compelling a man to work is extremely repugnant to every man who is not a criminal or convict.

In the second place, under any specified form of compulsory arbitration, it is impossible to provide for commanding advantage. He hires the man and pays the wages, also establishes the working conditions. He has the right to hire and discharge, and he can use that power to discriminate against any employee who are not amenable to any new regulations or working conditions he may wish to introduce.

Compulsory arbitration, therefore, amounts to an effort to compel a man to or to leave whether he wishes to or not, and under conditions in which he has no voice. If a man has a piece of land to sell and does not like the price or terms of payment offered by a possible customer, he refuses to sell the beans. But under the compulsory arbitration statutes in contemplation, that land, which is not his Creator, shall be compelled to sell his labor power whether he wants to or not. This compulsion is servitude.

The Dominion of Canada has adopted the compulsory plan to quite an extent, particularly as applied to public service corporations; but a recent occurrence has shown that no law is made strong enough to tie the hands of labor.

The street railways employes of Hull, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, had a considerable time waiting for better wages and working conditions. The company refused. They finally twice submitted them to the statute. Finally, the employes repudiated the statute on the grounds that the company would not be obliged to abide by any award, and notified the company that if their demands were not agreed to within 48 hours they would go on strike and tie up the system. Thereupon the company signed, and agreement recognizing the union and granting the increased wages and improved working conditions.

This is another instance going to show that there is no known method of tying the hands of labor, except such reasonable restriction on both sides as may come from a mutual agreement. The principle of collective bargaining is recognized and expressed in a trade agreement between the employer upon the one side and the union upon the other, under which the terms of a contract are made, rights of the other and a method of settlement of all its differences of opinion is provided.—Editor's (Mem.) Free Lance.

Since the above was written the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress has condemned the industrial disputes investigating act and has called on the government to repeal same.—A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter.

What Is Class Legislation?

From history we judge that it is class legislation when the government extends aid direct to the employer, and when in letting it go through some third parties hands to enable them to extract a toll.

We have this opinion because we don't seem to be called class legislation when the government loans money direct to the banks. It doesn't seem to be class legislation when the government pays subsidies to ships to enable them to compete with foreign vessels. It doesn't seem to be class legislation to exempt American vessels from toll in going through the Panama Canal. It wasn't class legislation for the government to insure vessels for war risks. It wasn't class legislation for the government to loan seven millions to the Panama Pacific railroad. It wasn't class legislation to give the railroads land enough to make a belt the width around the world. And the time is coming when it will not be considered class legislation to make the rich secure direct. And why? Just because the farmer won't submit to be imposed upon always. The time is coming when he will wake up and demand his own, and then it won't be "Reuben" or "Hay Seed," Mr. Farmer, but "Producer."—Department in Union Labor Bulletin, Little Rock, Ark.

Back to the Dark Ages.

A pleasing vista, for those who care for it, is suggested by a current pamphlet on "scientific management," which says:

"The problems involved, according to the bankers, are: Public opinion, Congress's gaining and holding commercial prestige after the war.

"1. To increase the capacity of our plants.

"2. To keep American labor satisfied with the wages and yet reduce the cost of the product sufficiently to compete with European production.

The unconscious revelation in this naive paragraph is that the author is thinking of "commercial prestige" as a concern of a small number of interested men, on the one hand, and labor, on the other hand, with foreign competition, and on the other hand, with American labor. The consequences to the world at large escapes him and is another sense a liability. The difference between the American standard consequently is the low standard of living—and the foreign wage is regarded as a menace to that living.

As long as this attitude is so generally assumed by the apostles of "commercial prestige" their fellowship will not include many workingmen or very many people who care for democracy. As long as "scientific management"—which is rarely scientific in any legitimate sense of the word—regards the workingman as raw material to be worked up into profitable articles of commerce, and ignores the greater fact that all commerce and all manufacture is only a means to an end, and that end the ennobling and dignifying of human life, it cannot be considered to mark an advance in civilization—San Francisco Bulletin.

Railroads' Hypocrisy Toward "The Public"

By Samuel Gompers, in American Federationist.

During the past few weeks we have been hearing a great deal about the rights and the interests of the public. The term "public" is used in an indiscriminating. Then comes the question immediately raises the question, Who—what is the public; of what elements in society is the public made up? When the street-car strikes of New York City forces thousands to walk, the New York Times, that earnest advocate of the interests of Wall Street, solemnly declared, "As the general discomfort rises, it becomes clearer that one side is trying to serve the public and the other side is seeking the victory by the people's inconvenience." This is a very serious charge if it has basis in fact, but there is reason is there for thinking that the traction companies of New York City have developed a disinterested desire to further the convenience of the straphangers of their crowded cars? According to the New York Times the strike efforts of these companies to maintain service despite the efforts of workers to make the companies realize they cannot operate their cars without proper regard to the rights and demands of their employes is a service to the public. Consider for a minute who the public is. The five millions of people living in New York City may be divided into two classes—those who employ and those who are employed. These two classes look at all industrial problems from opposite sides. The employed have the viewpoint of the wage-earner; those who employ are really fighting against the unions or managers of business. Each group knows that wherever its contentions or viewpoints are strengthened and maintained in dealing with an industrial problem, it means that it will be easier for it as an individual to secure its rights in dealing with his own employes. On the other hand, every contest that results in favor of wage-earners gives them more firmly in the institutions of our country the rights and the interests of wage-earners. It develops an appreciation of the purposes of the wage-earners in making their contract, and secures for them a favorable and sympathetic understanding which make it impossible that social and political institutions shall be used to defeat strikes and efforts of wage earners to secure better conditions of life and work.

In a sense, therefore, every strike and effort of wage-earners to establish higher standards and better conditions is a fight of every other wage-earner. In a particular contest it is the workers of a particular trade or industry who are on the firing line, but they are fighting for the whole group; their victory means the progress of the whole group. It means the progress and welfare of humanity.

Theodore P. Shonts and Frank Hedley have emphatically declared in a public statement that they are fighting "for the public welfare and best interests of the public and their "loyal employes" on the street-car lines. To understand what Shonts and Hedley are really fighting against one has only to consider the conditions which have been established and maintained on their street-car systems. They are fighting for a system of despotic control over employes; a system under which workers have nothing to say in the terms and conditions under which they work; they are fighting for a system which means high dividends, regardless of the public that must stand, while it rides and shivers in badly heated cars in the winter time. Shonts and Hedley are fighting for a system under which the capitalist shall dominate and dictate the standards and ideals of society. They are fighting for a system which values dollars more than men. It is a system which puts the masses of people in New York City have nothing to gain from a victory for Shonts and Hedley and work.

Dr. Samuel Johnston very truly said that the last resort of a scoundrel is his declaration "patriotism." So there not an unmistakable parallel between that statement and the solicitude for the public interests, the heartless greedy corporations which pile up profits, regardless of the welfare of the human beings they employ? Did not the late Jay Gould, prince of railroad magnates, more truly express their policy when he forcefully declared, "The public be damned"?

ESSENCE OF THE "UNION SHOP"

In brief, the union shop stands for collective bargaining and insists that in this age and generation neither the employer nor the individual wage worker can be permitted to do "just as he pleases."

When men are united they have a right to insist that each shall do his share in hailing out the boat and keeping lookout for a passing sail. So, when men are engaged in any task involving a certain degree of cooperation in order to insure the personal safety of all, they have a right to require that whoever seeks to join them shall qualify himself to perform his due share of such effort. These propositions are rudimentary, they are self-evident, they are just, and universally practiced as necessary.

In principle the attitude of the labor movement is based upon the same conception of justice and necessity. When the trade-unionist is asked to consent to the expenditure of their own time and money under certain conditions deemed necessary to their safety and well-being in a given industry or institution, it is morally their duty and logically their duty to insist that the non-unionist who seeks to share these conditions shall first agree to share the labor and expenditures necessary to their maintenance—in other words, to submit to be a member of the union. Such, in essence, is the whole argument for the union shop, or the so-called "closed shop." It is an argument every whit as sound as that of the castaways, and its soundness would be generally accepted if it were not distorted but for the fact that other, and entirely different, arguments have been raised to keep them at work.

The opponents of the labor movement accuse the leaders by attacking. This claims which it has not made, claims which, on the contrary, it has distinctly and emphatically disclaimed. They

DESPAIR HAS NO PLACE IN UNIONISM

Is there any room in the trade union movement for the apostle of depressing effect? There surely is not, and the less teaching of this kind that we have the better it is for labor.

There are a few men and women in the ranks of organized labor who seem to thrive on preaching to people of despair. They never fail to tell you of the starvation of working men, women and children and the terrible misery that has wrought upon humanity by those in control of the various forces of society. These men and women see no good in life. They do not hear the singing of the birds; they do not see the beautiful sunshine and enjoy the days that are made for humanity's sake.

The real trade unionist is a conformed optimist, going about preaching the gospel of hope and as he goes through life, throwing words of comfort here and spreading flowers along the pathway. Far better, my friends, that we help one lone struggling being here than to let him to his fate and then like as well as our own shortcomings upon the system of today.

And why shouldn't the trade unionist feel happy? There is no institution in America which has and is doing more for downtrodden humanity as the trade union movement of our country, as exemplified by the American Federation of Labor. Over 2,000,000 men and women, yes, coming toward the three million mark, doing everything they can every minute they live, for the betterment of mankind. And the year 1916 has been a great one for organized labor. The giant of brawn and muscle is fast becoming that intellectual being that will break the chains of the slave mind, being about the enjoyment of the blessings of today through education and organization.

No ideal of the people is brought forth that is not championed by the trade union movement. No institution for class-conscious as the trade unions which go to make up the great American labor movement.

On every side wages have been increased, hours shortened and some great fundamental finally worked out. And no organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor has enjoyed greater blessings than the United Mine Workers of America. At the New York joint conference an advance of wages, giving coal people millions of dollars, was secured. That great fundamental for which men have bled and died for on the industrial field and for which they have been driven back in defeat in the legislative halls of our country, namely, the recognition of the coal mining industry, was forever established on the entire North American continent. This wonderful victory established at the conference table without an industrial battle was surely one of the greatest in the annals of our organization. Yet we did not stop in our onward march. For more than fifty years the anthracite miners have hoped and dreamed of the time when the eight-hour day would be theirs. In recent years two titanic industrial struggles took place in this field, but the miners were forced to stack their arms for the time being and await that great day. It finally came. When the capitalistic press and newspapers were saying no, when the apostles of despair everywhere were decrying the efforts of those who trusted with the destiny of the anthracite miners. Yet, that day dawned. The conference in conference in New York, where the operators, swayed by the powerful argument and sound logic of the miners' representatives, were forced by intelligent reasoning to yield the eight-hour day.

These are but a few concrete achievements of our grand and glorious movement there can be no room in the organization for the destroyers of confidence. My friends, the trade union movement is made up of workers, not shirkers, men and women who are willing to fight, those who do not cry in despair over their failures of yesterday, but who have the courage to fight for a better tomorrow today and for the victories of tomorrow.

At no time could you feel prouder of your union than at a trade unionist than today. This is the era of true unionism. Let us go on and on, teaching the gospel of hope, strengthening our organization and making life better, brighter, and more joyous.—Alex Bittner, in United Mine Workers' Journal.

WHAT LABOR IS TRYING TO DO

It should be borne in mind that labor is not, as has been claimed in the past, a mere commodity. It is human power. It expends itself for the purpose of maintaining not only its own life, but the life of those dependent upon it. And those dependent upon labor include the whole world. In the past they gave labor as little as possible. Consequently labor was abused and degraded and weakened. Out of the labor market, just a few years ago, came millions to be sacrificed, consisting not only of men, but of women and children. The organizations labor has been struggling to make this sacrifice impossible and to place itself on the basis where it belongs, where it can secure from the whole world the recognition of its service. It knows, and it is striving to make the world know, that, without it, human life cannot continue to exist as a race. Recognition must be reached, it believes that its claims will be appreciated at their true worth and prosperity secured.

The labor movement in Los Angeles, like labor movements everywhere, is essentially humanitarian. It is a protest against waste, against waste of human life, of human abilities and capacities, of unspeakable loss in the way of intellectual and moral and social development. It sees great rewards going to the few, and a bare living, or no living at all, going to the multitude. Moreover, it sees the few wasting and degrading their surfeit, even while the multitude suffers. Its ideal is the betterment of the whole race.

It looks forward to the time when labor, instead of being despised as it is now, shall be honored, when the worth of a man shall be estimated not by the money that comes from the toll of others, but in the service he is able to render society. It sees in the future a more general realization on the part of society that the gambling in labor, which is gambling in human life, must cease, and that a new ideal must be maintained, placing the welfare of mankind above the welfare of property. It has the confidence it looks to the enactment of laws safeguarding to every one that which he earns, and a reasonable opportunity to make a living.

The treatment of labor in the past is the greatest blot on history. It has been blasphemously accepted and encouraged as the will of God. Now it is recognized as a result of the unrighteousness, the selfishness and the shortsightedness of man. The hope of the future lies in the condemnation of the despotism of labor, which has weakened the foundations of human life throughout the world. In the re-creating of labor, with the rights of labor safeguarded, labor looks forward to a new era, far more wonderful than any yet known. It looks for the promise of achievement and with the prospect of intellectual and moral advancement, giving to the whole world. It does not entertain hold on the principles of wise living that alone can lead to happiness.—Los Angeles Citizen.

WAVERERS WORTHLESS.

The power to decide firmly and quickly strikes at the very marrow of ability. The world is full of waverers, the man who has this power, with whom action follows on the heels of decision. The vacillating, wavering, irresolute man who doesn't know his own mind, who is always reconsidering, waiting for more favorable moment to act, will never set the world on fire. He will never achieve immortality. He is the man of indecision and quick action who strikes before him. The vacillating man, however late he is in forming his future is generally realization on the part of society that the gambling in labor, which is gambling in human life, must cease, and

MEN AND COMMODITIES

By the Editor of Metropolitan Magazine, September issue, 1916.

It was generally understood at Chicago last June, and it is certainly understood now that the old guard took Hughes because he was the one man mentioned at the Chicago conventions (apart from Colonel Roosevelt) who could get the support of Republicans and Progressives alike. Hughes was the candidate of the Republican convention who was most bitterly opposed by the Progressive delegates at the auditorium, but that was because he was considered their getting a Roosevelt. Once nominated Hughes stands in entirely new relation to the voters who made up the rank and file of the Progressive party, and there is nothing inconsistent in the action of the man who supports him strongly now after having fought his nomination at Chicago. Hughes was chosen by the old guard just because he was at least liberal enough and independent enough to appear acceptable to the Progressives. He has the reputation of strict honesty, great earnestness of purpose and real liberality in his political views. Is that not enough for any Progressive? Is not that exactly what the Progressives are looking for in its leaders and statesmen?

The Progressives, we imagine, are looking for something more and something different. And they are certainly not inclined to the view at present that Hughes has not yet displayed any sympathy with modern progressivism, although it is true that he has not had much of an opportunity of doing so. As governor of New York Hughes made an admirable example of an efficient advocate of good government. He carried out the laws that were on the statute books without favor; he was not subservient to machine influence; he was efficient by reputation and by desire to save the public from its own pet vice by passing and enforcing measures of real civic morality, and he desired to save the public from its own pet vice by passing and enforcing measures of real civic morality, in the forms of popular government, and expected great things to come of a direct primary law. Progressive Republicans could more readily select their candidates for office.

Two years ago there was a good government movement in New York, and it is altogether probable that Hughes is a Goo-Goos by those who posed as the more practical citizens. To be a Goo-Goo in those days was to be considered very radical and daring. Mr. Hughes, to many Progressives, proved himself at Albany, not a Goo-Goo, but a Progressive, and hops there is nothing that the Progressives have more than a Goo-Goo, because in the Progressive the Goo-Goo is nothing but a reactionary with a radical name. And that is the reason that Mr. John Rockefeller has all the qualities of the Goo-Goo. He possesses the household virtues; he does not drink, he smokes, and he abhors gambling; he is a good family man and a regular churchgoer; he believes in carrying out the laws in efficient government, in good roads, in education and hygiene. Probably Mr. Rockefeller, if his attention had been turned to it, would have been a strong supporter of a direct primary law; but there is nothing that the astute autocrat more thoroughly approves of than the preservation of the machinery of the forms of democracy. We can quite imagine that John Rockefeller, at Albany, would have been just as good a governor as Hughes and one of a very similar type. Both men, we suppose, believe in the existing order of things, and only want to improve that order a little by regulating private behavior. When you realize the fundamental similarity between progressive Hughes and the leader of our modern plutocracy can you wonder that the real Progressive is a little doubtful as to whether he should swallow the Republican candidate? Mark well that we make a distinction between Governor Hughes and Candidate Hughes. The world has changed in entirely new relations since Hughes was at Albany, and we have no right to assume that he has not progressed with it. In some respects, no doubt, he has.

The touchstone of the whole business is the relation of the candidate to labor. In all communities there is a conservative element representing capital and property and this conservative element makes most of the laws and has the chief hand in administering them. This element owns, produces and sells and reaps the profits. When it becomes exorbitant and unscrupulous it encounters the opposition in the ranks of the big bulk of the population which becomes an agitation of reform, usually for political purposes. And the consumers sometimes get the upper hand, and pass laws which are opposed by the conservatives and are therefore called liberal. Most civilized countries have a liberal and conservative party, although they have not always different communities. Sometimes, as in the United States, we have a conservative and liberal element in both of the two great parties of the country. But always the conservative element represents the capitalist or the landowner or the manufacturer, the men who possess and produce, while the liberal element represents the consumer who buys. We have plenty of liberal laws in the United States. The Sherman act is a case in point—and examples of railroad legislation are extremely liberal insofar as they benefit the consumer. But in few countries does any political party represent the man who earns his living by labor. We think and in our own country he is hardly represented at all. None of the so-called liberal legislation is for his benefit. In fact, he frequently gets less benefit from the liberal element in politics than from the conservative. He cannot get his representation and he needs justice. The Progressive party was founded largely to give justice to labor. And there is nothing of necessity in common between the Progressive who believes in a proper reward for labor and the liberal who thinks mainly of lowering the price to the consumer. Under the family virtues anything to do with the case. Good government, which merely carries out efficiently the laws made in the interest of capital or of the consumer, is not highly regarded by the Progressive; and that is why the Progressive party is so enthusiastic up to the present for Hughes.

Whether a man is the progressive for or not must be judged largely by his attitude toward labor unions. Roughly speaking, our laws have done nothing for labor unions. Whatever the workers have earned in wages or comfort or shorter hours has been won by agitation and often by terrorization. The union has given labor power to make demands. Capital often increases wages, just as the steel corporation did the other day, but the initiative always comes from labor to meet the union's demands, or to forestall the union. It is not merely organized labor that has benefited by the work of the union. Whenever the union is able to get a little advantage unorganized workers the nonunion worker reaps the benefit. No one with the slightest knowledge of economic history has any doubt but that the union, with its power to strike, has been the one force that has stood between him and absolute slavery in the last half century. THEREFORE, THE TEST OF A CANDIDATE'S PROGRESSIVISM IS HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UNION.

Of late years the reactionary element has tried to use the Sherman act against labor. This liberal measure was passed in the interest of the consumer, and now the capitalistic element has it for his own purposes. Undoubtedly, from a legal standpoint, the labor union, whenever it calls a strike and sets out politely to prevent strike-breakers coming in, or employs the boycott, is acting in restraint of trade. But the lawmakers not thinking of the labor union when they passed the law, and the Supreme Court thinking mainly of the control of commodities, and of the result to the consumer. They were thinking about the man who has to pay more for his oil because somebody else's competitor may be put out of business by one big oil dealer. Labor has achieved this much, that the Sherman act is not being enforced through the Sherman act has been temporarily stopped.

The Clayton act has decided that the Sherman act does not apply to labor unions because it was intended to apply to commodities. ARTICLE 18 NOT A COMMODITY.

There you have the final distinction between the liberal and the progressive. The great liberal authorities of the last century, like Mill, have declared that labor as a commodity to be bought in the cheapest market and to be subject to the inexorable law of supply and demand. Many of our most liberal-minded people today are not a whit advanced beyond Bright and Mill. They look at all that agitation and strikes have been able to do, labor is still a commodity, a mere commodity to be bought in the cheapest market, and the workman gets paid merely what he can live on. Many times, mainly because all other commodities have also gone up in price. He still gets a bare subsistence. He is still kept on the verge of extreme want; at any moment an accident may deprive him of his livelihood, and he is always liable to dismissal in hard times. He gets none of the profits of his labor, he enjoys none of the amenities of life, and he can not raise a family in decent comfort. So long as labor is considered a commodity so long will these conditions, hardly better than slavery, exist. The Clayton bill, passed during the Wilson administration, says that labor is not a commodity. Will Mr. Hughes stand by it? Is he for or against Clayton bill? Will they go any farther?

Aims, Purposes, Declarations of American Federation of Labor

From the inception of the American Federation of Labor it has taken the stand that while unions for the various trades and callings must each and all be left entirely free to govern themselves within their own borders, yet between the members of all these unions there should be a bond as great as that between the members of the same organization, and it is the aim of the A. F. of L. to strengthen that bond by organization, and by education and consultation. The feeling and consciousness of unity of interest and solidarity to place the labor movement upon a higher and more effective plane. It seeks to organize the yet unorganized workers, the skilled and the unskilled, the permanently located and the migratory.

The A. F. of L. holds that whatever a man may be so long as he works honestly and seeks to wrong no other man or to advantage himself at the cost to another, and seeks to maintain this standard regardless of how any toilers may happen to be employed, he is a man. Though the A. F. of L. does not advocate strikes, yet it encourages them when all other means to obtain justice for the toilers have failed. It urges that the workers when struck, strike back as best they can. Though strikes do not always win, even those alleged to be lost at least induce employers to forbear in the future and teach them a lesson they do not readily forget; namely, that Labor is the most important factor in production and entitled to a voice in the question of wages, hours, and conditions under which work shall be performed.

The A. F. of L. stands as the most potent factor in all our country in defense of the right of free assemblage, free speech, and free press. It endeavors to unite all classes of wage earners under one head through their several organizations with the purpose in view that class, race, creed, political, and religious prejudices may be abolished and that the fullest possible support may be given to all. It aims to allow in the light of experience the utmost liberty of each organization in the conduct of its own affairs consistent with the generally understood practice of the identity and solidarity of labor.

The A. F. of L. establishes intercommunication; creates agitation and educates not only the workers but the educators. It is in direct correspondence and communication with the workers and their organizations the world over. It urges the interest of the toilers in Congress, state legislatures, municipal legislative bodies, administrative offices, and judicial agencies. It initiates measures in the name of Labor and Liberty, and defends and defeats measures by sounding a note of warning, or calculated to injure the masses of the people. It has secured vast relief from burdensome laws and governmental officials. It seeks and will achieve freedom and justice for all. It encourages and has secured the interchange of ideas, ideals, and methods. It seeks to cultivate mutual interest, and to secure united action to announce to the world the wrongs and burdens which the toilers have for long years endured, and the rights which they are entitled to assumes. It asks and demands the co-operation of the organizations, co-operation and affiliation of all wageworkers who believe in the principle of unity, and that there is something better in life than long hours, low wages, unemployment, and the fear of it.

The A. F. of L. endorses as basic these economic principles: That no trade or calling can long maintain wages, hours, and conditions above the common level of those surrounding it, that is subject to many fluctuations and changes; that lack of organization among the unskilled vitally affects the skilled, whether organized or unorganized; that generally organization of skilled and unskilled workers and the interchange of ideas between them is essential to the welfare of the labor movement demonstrates the necessity for the union of individuals and that logic implies a union of unions—federation.

The A. F. of L. urges the concentration of efforts to organize all the workers within the ranks of the organized, fair and open contest for the different views which may be entertained upon measures proposed to move the grand army of labor onward to victory. The organization of the grand army of labor onward to victory. The organization is not local in character, no great a scope, and so free a forum as within the ranks of the A. F. of L. and nowhere is there such a fair opportunity afforded for the advocacy of a new or advanced idea. The A. F. of L. is the embodiment of the cardinal principles of the trade union movement that the working people must organize, unite, and federate, irrespective of creed, color, sex, nationality or politics. In the language of the late William E. Gladstone, "trade unions are the bulwarks of modern civilization."

The A. F. of L. stands unalterably for the abolition of all forms of involuntary servitude and devotes its time and efforts to make every day a day of freedom.

The trade union movement fosters education and uproots ignorance; shortens hours and lengthens life; raises wages and lowers misery; increases independence and decreases dependence; encourages thrift and balks tyranny; discourages selfishness and establishes fraternity; induces liberality and reduces prejudice; creates rights and abolishes wrongs; lightens toil and brightens man; makes the workshop safe and brighter; cheers the home and fireside and makes the world better.

"The labor power of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce." Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

LABOR'S BEST INVESTMENT

Whenever you find a workingman who refuses to join the organization of his trade, with the query, "why should I pay my money into your union?" you can take it for granted that he is one creature who wants to get the benefit of something that has been accomplished by organized labor without any personal effort or sacrifices, or else he has not sense enough to come in out of the rain.

The financial investments of trade unionists know that their labor organizations have proved profitable beneficiaries, yes thousands of times the amount of their investments, and if we analyze the proposition we find that the returns are the highest kind of interest investments. As an illustration I take the brewery workers' organization.

In 1887, when the brewery workers (or rather the journeymen brewers) organized, they were probably the most unfortunate and ill-paid workers of America, with the one exception of the bakery workers. The journeymen brewers' organization started out as a cheap duespaying organization; the local dues were only 25 cents a month, and the per capita cents went to their national organization. The consequences was—no local treasury, and no treasury. When they went on strike any thing to pay for the running expenses of the office.

The brewery proprietors like all other employers were naturally aware of the financial basis of the union, of the financial strength of the organization, and decided to exterminate the organization if possible. Having formerly been employers' association, they formed the Master Brewers' association and inaugurated a lockout of 1888.

While the employers failed in the end, it nevertheless broke up that if it would have been any other industry except the brewing industry the plan would have succeeded.

From 1888 until the time when the local unions were incorporated and the dues in the national organization raised from 10 to 25 cents per month, but very slow progress, the journeymen brewers' organization started out as a cheap duespaying organization; the local dues were only 25 cents a month, and the per capita cents went to their national organization. The consequences was—no local treasury, and no treasury. When they went on strike any thing to pay for the running expenses of the office.

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From 1888 until the time when the local unions were incorporated and the dues in the national organization raised from 10 to 25 cents per month, but very slow progress was made.

HOUSE ROLL CALL VOTES ON CLAYTON LAW

ROLL CALL NO. 1.

Containing the vote of the members of the house of representatives on the Clayton antitrust bill, which contained Labor's Bill of Rights, exempting labor and farmers' organizations from the antitrust laws, regulation of the issuance of injunctions during labor disputes, and guaranteeing right of trial by jury in cases of indirect contempts.

The Clayton bill passed the house on June 5, 1914, by a vote of 277 "ayes," 54 "nays," 3 answering "present," and 99 "not voting."

The representatives from the following states voted as designated:

CALIFORNIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bell, Church, Curry, Kent, Kettner, Nolan, Raker.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Hayes, Kahn.

Not voting—Knowland, Stephens.

COLORADO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Keating, Kindel, Seldomridge, Taylor.

CONNECTICUT.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Donovan, Kennedy, Lonergan, Mahan.

Not voting—Reilly.

ILLINOIS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baltz, Borchers, Buchanan, Copley, Fitzhenry, Foster, Fowler, Gallagher, Gorman, Hill, Hinebaugh, McAndrews, McKenzie, O'Hair, Rainey, Sabath, Stone, Strimer, Tavenner, Thomson, Williams.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Britten, Madden, Mann.

Not voting—Graham, Hoxworth.

INDIANA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Adair, Barnhart, Cline, Cox, Cullop, Dixon, Gray, Korbly, Lieb, Morrison, Moss, Peterson, Rauch.

IOWA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Good, Green, Haugen, Kennedy, Scott, Towner, Vollmer, Woods.

Not voting—Connolly, Kirkpatrick, Prouty.

KANSAS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Campbell, Connelly, Doolittle, Murdock, Neeley, Taggart.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Anthony.

Not voting—Helvering.

KENTUCKY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barkley, Cantrill, Fields, Johnson, Rouse, Thomas.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Langley, Powers.

Not voting—Helm, Sherley, Stanley.

MARYLAND.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Coady, Linthicum, Smith.

Not voting—Lewis, Talbott.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Dieltrick, Gallivan, Gardner, Gilmore, Mitchell, Phelan, Thacher.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Gillett, Paige, Treadway, Winslow.

Not voting—Greene, Roberts, Rogers.

MICHIGAN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Beakes, Cramton, Doremus, Keller, Kettles, MacDonald, Mapes, J. M. C. Smith, Woodruff.

Not voting—Hamilton, Lindquist, S. W. Smith.

Fordney answered "present."

MINNESOTA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Anderson, Davis, Hammond, Lindbergh.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Steenerson, Stevens, Volstead.

Not voting—Manahan, Miller, Smith.

MISSOURI.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Alexander, Booher, Dacker, Dickinson, Hamlin, Hensley, Igoe, Lloyd, Rucker, Russell, Shackleford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Barthold.

Not voting—Borland, Rubey.

NEBRASKA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barton, Kinkaid, Magoire, Sloan.

Not voting—Stephens.

NEW JERSEY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baker, Hamill, Hart, Kinkead, Scully, Tuttle, Walsh.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Drukker, Parker.

Not voting—Browning, Eagan, Townsend.

NEW YORK.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Bruckner, Cantor, Carney, Conry, Driscoll, Fitzgerald, Goulden, Griffin, McClellan, Maher, O'Brien, O'Leary, Patten, Riordan, Smith, Taylor, Underhill.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Calder, Chandler, Danforth, Dunn, Fairchild, Hamilton, Mott, Parker, Payne, Platt, Wallin.

Not voting—Caraw, Dale, Dooling, George, Gittins, Goldfogle, Levy, Lott, Merritt, Metz, Oglesby, Ten Eyck, Wilson.

OHIO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Allen, Ashbrook, Bathrick, Bowdle, Brumbaugh, Bulkley, Claypool, Crosser, Gard, Goeke, Gordon, Key, Post, Sherwood, Whitacre.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Fess, Switzer, White.

Not voting—Ansberry, Cooper, Francis.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bailey, Carr, Casey, Dershem, Farr, Hulings, Kelly, Lee, Lesher, Logue, Palmer, Porter, Rothermel Rupley, Temple, Vare, Walters.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Butler, Edmonds, Graham, Keister, Kiess, Moore, Shreve.

Not voting—Ainey, Barchfeld, Brodbeck, Burke, Difenderfer, Donohoe, Griest, Kreider, Langham, Lewis, Morin, Patton.

WASHINGTON.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bryan, Falconer, Johnson, LaFollette.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Humphrey.

Not voting—Albert.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Moss, Neely, Sutherland.

Not voting—Avis, Brown, Hughes.

WISCONSIN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Burke, Carr, Frear, Konop, Lenroot, Reilly, Stafford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Browne, Esch, Nelson.

Not voting—Cooper.

ROLL CALL NO. 2.

On October 8, 1914, the Clayton antitrust bill, which had been amended in the Senate and referred to conference, was reported to the House by the conferees. The changes made in the bill as reported to the House by the Senate met with the approval of labor because they had been amended, eliminating all objectionable features. The House adopted the conferees report containing the labor sections, by a vote of 244 "ayes," 54 "nays," 1 answering "present," and 126 "not voting."

The representatives from the following states voted as designated:

CALIFORNIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Hayes, Kahn.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Curry, Kahn.

Not Voting—Bell, Church, Kent, Knowland, Nolan, Raker, Stephens.

COLORADO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Keating, Seldomridge.

Not Voting—Kindel, Taylor.

CONNECTICUT.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Donovan, Kennedy, Lonergan, Mahan, Reilly.

ILLINOIS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Baltz, Borchers, Buchanan, Fitzhenry, Foster, Gallagher, Hill, Stone, Tavenner, Thomson, Williams.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Madden, Mann.

Not Voting—Britten, Copley, Fowler, Graham, Hinebaugh, Hoxworth, McAndrews, McKenzie, O'Hair, Rainey, Sabath, Strimer.

Gorman answered "present."

INDIANA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Adair, Barnhart, Cline, Cox, Cullop, Dixon, Gray, Korbly, Lieb, Morrison, Moss, Peterson, Rauch.

IOWA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Good, Green, Haugen, Kennedy, Scott, Towner, Vollmer, Woods.

Not Voting—Connolly, Kirkpatrick, Prouty.

KANSAS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Campbell, Connelly, Doolittle, Murdock, Neeley, Taggart.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Anthony.

Not Voting—Helvering.

KENTUCKY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Barkley, Cantrill, Fields, Johnson, Rouse, Sherley, Stanley, Thomas.

Not Voting—Langley, Powers.

MARYLAND.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Coady, Talbott.

Not Voting—Lewis, Linthicum, Smith.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Dietrick, Gallivan, Gardner, Gilmore, Mitchell, Phelan, Thacher.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Greene.

Not Voting—Gillett, Paige, Roberts, Treadway, Winslow.

MICHIGAN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Beakes, Doremus, Mapes, Smith.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Cramton, Fordney, Hamilton, Keller, McLaughlin, MacDonald, Mapes, J. M. C. Smith, Woodruff.

Not Voting—Lindquist, Kettles, S. W. Smith.

MINNESOTA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Davis, Hammond.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Manahan, Miller, Stevens, Steenerson, Volstead.

Not Voting—Anderson, Lindberg, Smith.

MISSOURI.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Alexander, Booher, Borland, Decker, Dickinson, Hamlin, Hensley, Igoe, Lloyd, Rubey, Rucker, Russell, Shackleford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Barthold.

Not Voting—Dacker, Rucker.

NEBRASKA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Magoire, Stephens.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Barton, Kinkaid, Sloan.

Not Voting—Lobeck.

NEW JERSEY.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Eagan, Hamill, Hart, Kinkead, Scully, Townsend, Tuttle, Walsh.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Drukker.

Not Voting—Baker, Browning, Parker.

NEW YORK.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Bruckner, Cantor, Carney, Conry, Driscoll, Fitzgerald, Goulden, Griffin, McClellan, Maher, O'Brien, O'Leary, Patten, Riordan, Smith, Taylor, Underhill.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Calder, Chandler, Danforth, Dunn, Fairchild, Hamilton, Mott, Parker, Payne, Platt, Wallin.

Not Voting—Caraw, Dale, Dooling, George, Gittins, Goldfogle, Levy, Lott, Merritt, Metz, Oglesby, Ten Eyck, Wilson.

OHIO.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Allen, Ashbrook, Bathrick, Bowdle, Brumbaugh, Bulkley, Claypool, Crosser, Gard, Goeke, Gordon, Key, Post, Sherwood, Whitacre.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Switzer.

Not Voting—Ansberry, Brumbaugh, Fess, Francis, White, Wilson.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bailey, Casey, Dershem, Difenderfer, Farr, Donohoe, Griest, Kreider, Lee, Lesher, Logue, Porter, Rupley, Vare.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Barchfeld, Edmonds, Graham, Moore, Patton.

Not Voting—Ainey, Brodbeck, Burke, Butler, Carr, Graham, Hulings, Kelly, Langham, Lewis, Morin, Palmer, Rothermel, Shreve, Temple, Walters.

WASHINGTON.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Bryan, Falconer.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Humphrey, Johnson, LaFollette.

Not Voting—Albert.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Brown, Neely, Sutherland.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Avis.

Not Voting—Hughes, Moss.

WISCONSIN.

Ayes (Favorable to Labor)—Carr, Cooper, Reilly, Stafford.

Nays (Unfavorable to Labor)—Browne, Esch, Frear, Nelson.

Not Voting—Burke, Konop, Lenroot.

Gompers Defends R. R. Eight-Hour Movement

At a mass meeting held under the auspices of the eight-hour league in Washington, D. C., on October 12, President Gompers accepted an invitation to speak. He said he was "an eight-hour leaguer from way back," and recalled the successful eight-hour fight made by the trade union movement.

"Show how or other, in my life of 66 years," he said, "but of more than 45 years of activity in the cause of labor, justice, freedom and humanity, I have escaped being called a politician until very recently. And recently I have been called a partisan politician by no less a person than a United States Senator from the great state of Illinois."

The speaker stated that he had accepted as chairman by Secretary Olander of the Illinois State Federation of Labor and Secretary Nockels of the Chicago Federation of Labor to reply to Senator Sherman in Chicago on Sunday, October 25.

President Gompers made this reference to the eight-hour movement of employes in the railroad train service:

"I want to say a word or two in regard to the Adamson law, and then I want to refer to certain other instances and other facts involved in this campaign.

I desire to say here and now, from my own knowledge, that the railroad men and their brotherhoods did not ask for the Adamson law. They had declared that the time had come that they would no longer fool and fritter away their time with the railroad managers who were trying to prolong the agony and to fritter away the confidence of the rank and file with the leadership of the organization. I do not know how often you travel on the railroads, but I have frequently traveling to do, and have found that in nearly every railroad station there were bulletins, and in nearly every railroad car bulletins. You found on every bill of fare when you wanted a cheese sandwich, you found the statement that the proposition against the eight-hour day. You found full-page advertisements in the newspapers every day, and terrific appeals to the respect and the public sympathy from the railroads to defeat the organization. I do not know how often you travel on the railroads, but I have frequently traveling to do, and have found that in nearly every railroad station there were bulletins, and in nearly every railroad car bulletins. You found on every bill of fare when you wanted a cheese sandwich, you found the statement that the proposition against the eight-hour day. You found full-page advertisements in the newspapers every day, and terrific appeals to the respect and the public sympathy from the railroads to defeat the organization.

"The railroad men represent the poor. They represent the workers. They have not the money to buy columns of space to explain, and they depend upon the information and the sympathy that these men have in the ranks of the workers to spread it, you understand how it became necessary for these chiefs of the railroad brotherhoods to tell the railroads that the time had come when monkeying must be stopped. And if you will permit us the eight-hour day, we will submit this question to the men most vitally affected, and they will give you their answer. What answer would have come? I will tell you very candidly my opinion. I really do not believe that the railroads would consult presidents would have held out 48 hours against the united demands of the railroad men for the eight-hour day if the strike had gone on. My judgment is this. I submit it to your judgment for your thoughtful consideration.

"The railroads have been demanding from the government, from the commercial agencies for years an increase in freight rate. They knew, as they know now, and as I am satisfied will be demonstrated to them beyond cavil that the eight-hour workday will mean not one penny of an increase in the course of years. Not one penny increase caused by operation as to permit, I am willing to trust whatever reputation I may have as an economist upon that statement being demonstrated in the future.

"But they were willing that the strike should come. They were willing that the public attention of the people should be invited to that question, and that they were supposedly acting under duress and that necessity compelled them to concede, and with a flourish of trumpets declaring that they must grant increased freight rates. That was the thing.

"The President of the United States called the representatives of the brotherhoods into conference and counselled with them, sympathized with them in their railroad struggles. And if I say but one thing that I shall longingly cherish in my heart, it is the great reverence for the man who can feel for his fellow men. He expressed the idea and the thought and the feeling that the men were justified in demanding an eight-hour workday, and he hoped to prevail upon them that they would give him an opportunity of working out an agreement, an understanding, some relations that would break and end the existence of our country."

He then went to the railroad managers and spoke with them, argued with them, and asked them to consider with him other things might be submitted to arbitration. He failed in that and then was confronted with the situation that was confronted, with the mandate of the great republic of the men who operate the railroads of our country, that under no circumstances would the eight-hour day, they would stop work.

"I'm saying, I want to say a word or two upon this question of stopping work. I know the consequences of stopping work. But, my friends, there are some people who would take away from the workers of this country the right to stop work. I beg of you to remember the fact that the one difference between a slave and a free man is that the latter has the right to stop work. No man has the right to commit crime, or make assaults upon property, but he has the right to fold his arms and say nothing and do nothing. It is the great economic power of the workers in the non-employment of their labor power, and bring the question, as one of the organizations of their responsibilities and duties to their workers, as well as the responsibilities of workers to their employers.

"The president found that tense condition, and then appealed to the congress of the United States to take cognizance of what was involved. Now I shall be the last person in the country to do anything, things by law. I think that the action of the president of the United States in going before the congress of trial democracy."

Unionism Is Real Friend of Immigrant

The man who comes to our shores seeking an opportunity to improve his lot, if he has any such resources, may find himself in a position no better than that he left behind. In fact, he may, and often does, find himself in a worse position than formerly, amid strange surroundings and, as if were, mocked by the memory of those days of wealth by which he was lured from home.

In such circumstances the hopes of the immigrant are centered in the organization kept to the ear but broken to the heart." Unfortunately a majority of those who land unorganized will place themselves in just such a position. Herded into the cities and mines, working under conditions that would in a short time destroy the mind, living in slums, shacks and bunkhouses that are indescribably worse than his first. He leaves a land of poverty and comes to a land of wealth. But he finds that wealth is not for him or that wealth. He comes to a land of liberty, only to find himself denied access to its natural gifts. He comes with hope, and that hope turns to "Dead sea apples" on his lips.

The conditions created by the congestion of immigrants in the industrial centers constitutes a menace to the institutions of the country. The peace of these institutions is constantly threatened and frequently violated.

To meet this danger, numerous expedients have been devised. These methods have for their object the inculcation of a patriotic sentiment by appeal to national history and tradition, by teaching politics and civics, and by various exercises calculated to inspire reverence for "the flag" and to strengthen the ties of those things of which that emblem is the symbol.

The patriotic address, the flag-raising exercises, the civics class work, have their well meant and however successful their appeal to the emotions, leave untouched the real seed of discontent. They do not realize in practical ways the promised opportunity of liberty and full development upon the basis of justice, of right, of peace and equality.

The test by which the question of Americanization must finally be subjected consists in the comparison between the conditions of labor in the United States and the countries from which the immigrants come. To the extent that the comparison favors the latter, to that extent recognize the process of Americanization.

The labor union is a vital factor in Americanization by virtue of its influence in the regulation and control of the conditions of labor. The influence of the labor movement is exerted not only in securing the worker in his right to that opportunity which is the distinguishing characteristic of Americanism.

The labor movement is a movement of, by and for the workers. Its interests and its activities relate solely to the application of justice in the relations between the worker and society at large.

The labor movement, by uniting the workers in a bond of common interest, makes them numerical with a force equal to that of the numbers combined, thus enabling him to make his bargain for the disposition of his labor power or his industrial interest based upon the basis of individual necessities.

The labor movement has brought to bear upon conditions of labor extends to every detail of the day's work. Wages, hours of labor, shop conditions are determined by mutual agreement.

The labor movement exerts a powerful influence upon the formation of public policy, as expressed in the laws of the country. It stands as a bulwark against the encroachment of private interests upon public rights. It is the only movement of establishment in the daily lives of the people of that condition which we regard as the essence of Americanism, the opportunity of full development upon the highest plane of social justice.

The thousands and thousands of immigrants in our country the labor unions have been schools, colleges and universities. While they have not necessarily stimulated a knowledge of Latin or Greek, they have learned much about their industrial relations, they have been taught and to share fully in all the material things which have been so amply provided but so unevenly distributed.

What a hollow mockery is all talk of "Americanization unless the "Americanizers" see to it that sufficient leisure is provided to enable the immigrant to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered! In this particular field of endeavor—fostering the workday—the labor union has been the pioneer and has maintained the leadership right up to date.—Samuel Gompers, Honorary-treasurer California State Federation of Labor.

ORGANIZED LABOR NOT A MENACE

There are those in this enlightened country who speak of the menace of unionism. What does it menace? Why does it menace? Is it because unionism is a "trust, or is it because it is a necessity?

The union man is called upon to make sacrifices. He is not making for himself a monopoly. Every benefit he secures he shares with others.

Wherein is unionism a menace.

Does it menace the interests of labor? Dissolve all the unions of the country, and what would be the effect on labor? Would the remaining be benefited, injured? Every increase in wages and every reduction of hours, and every safeguard of the worker, is due to organized effort.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

The workingman who doesn't believe in trade unions ought to read a little and learn which is little. Child labor, long work day was 11 to 12 hours or from sun to sun. Is that you are agitating for a 10-hour day because quite common and resulted in quite a number of strikes. The merchants' association and employers generally pledged themselves not to employ laborers unless they agreed to work 13 hours for 1½ a day.

From 1830 to 1835 the 10-hour contests resulted in a little, a number of strikes and lockouts. The conspiracy laws sent hundreds of our wageworker fathers and grandfathers to jail. The military were called out on the slightest pretext, and the 10-hour agitators were openly denounced.—Ex.

Don't "wait for the others." Others are waiting for you. Some must be among the first—why not you?

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

MISSION OF THE CITY CENTRAL BODY

There are many men in every community who question the value of a local trades council if they do not only flout it as a wasteful expenditure of their local money. These may be roughly divided into two classes. There is one class who are familiar with the duties of the council and those who are not satisfied, for various reasons, with the actions of the central body. Both of these classes have one point in sympathy—that they refuse to serve on the council of their locality.

The trades council, or local city, or county central body, by whatever name it may be called, is the essential feature of our trade union movement and to decry or attempt to belittle its influence is a serious mistake. When the dignity and importance of its mission are appreciated and delegates are sent to represent the various locals that are intelligent and sincere workers in the union movement, it quickly assumes its place as the bulwark of the labor movement in its community.

The purposes of a local central labor body are to weld into closer relationship the local unions in its jurisdiction, so that they may have the greater influence in the settlement of any disputes that may exist between employers and the members of any affiliated local of the council, and to make it possible for co-operate in the extension of organization; third, to give an opportunity for harmonious co-operation in the selection of men and measures in a political sense.

When the unions in any locality approach their local trades council with a clear understanding of these objects in their mind and make their attainment through the selection of only the most capable men, there is no dissatisfaction with the work of their central organization. We are in the building of unions when we write that 90 per cent of the dissatisfaction with trades councils can be directly traced to the neglect or an ignorance of the part it plays in the scheme of trade unionism.

Let each union affiliated with the trades councils send their best talent to the organizations, and, if the delegates will enter the work with an appreciation of the importance of the real duties are the cause of organized labor advance, they will quickly realize the impetus that such a body can give to their movement.—Ex.

TOUCHSTONE OF LABOR'S SUCCESS

The one thing which employers fear in the organized labor movement is the power necessary to make these organizations effective. Some employers have officially declared labor organizations of the "corporate kind." Of course the proper kind is, their estimation is the carefully exploited edition from which all evidences of power have been carefully repressed. Such institutions would be labor organizations in name, only.

Only where organizations have power do they have effectiveness in bringing about betterment of the conditions of labor. Power cannot exist unless there exist the sinews and munitions for sustained resistance and demands and rights. The power of an organization is related in a very vital sense to membership and to the duty which each union transmits to higher organizations.

Those organizations which are vigorous and powerful to promote the well-being of their members are invariably those organizations which have established high dues. Union funds constitute a kind of insurance fund for the membership itself. Considered from a business viewpoint dues are to be investments which yield a rich rate of returns as union dues.

When the resources of an organization are ample, great movements may be undertaken with a spirit of confidence and independence that has a helpful reaction upon recalcitrant employers.

Resources facilitate the extension of organization which in turn increase the power of the organization. Power is increasing solidarity. Union resources put confidence into the unorganized to incur risks resulting from an enlistment in the ranks of organized labor. Union resources protect the workers from wage reductions and poorer conditions of work because the power of self-defense constitutes a real argument against injury or prevention of contest.

A low-dues paying policy is not a profitable or a wise policy for organized labor. Indeed it is not a good business sense to increase dues with every wage increase—the wage increase was due to organization and dropped membership will in turn bring other wage increases.

As union dues are increased more benefits and greater opportunities for service can be extended in variety. The benefits can be managed by the organization more cheaply and more satisfactorily than similar insurance can be furnished by state or private agencies. Assuring the unions control over these benefits removes all doubt of such assistance in industrial disputes.

Labor organizations embody an ideal, but that ideal must rest upon a practical basis if it is to be translated into reality. The practical resources to make any ideal really effective in some degree upon the financial resources at command. The question of higher dues is one of fundamental importance to workers. It is a matter that must not be pushed aside. It is a matter that should be given most careful and wise consideration. It is a fundamental matter because the dues paid in a large measure determine the power which the organization exercises for the cause of human welfare.—President Gompers.

Unity Paves Way for Industrial Freedom

Organization is the way whereby the toilers of all ages have returned victories from wrongs and have secured greater opportunities. Workers of all callings cannot learn that there are principles of human welfare that are of paramount importance. Working and living conditions can only be maintained and improved by principles of human welfare when the workers themselves have a proper conception of their own interests and the moral courage to make vigorous, sustained effort to translate them into life.

It is an old adage that "he who would be free himself must strike the blow." The whole human family has been struggling toward higher civilization, has been seeking a nobler, freer, higher earthly life, and new aspirations for the human family who lead the struggle are those possessed of a high degree of moral courage. Life itself is a struggle. It is a battle for rights, for existence, from beginning to end. And as it is a truth that great battles move slowly, the world-wide battle for freer, higher life progresses slowly, yet progresses ever. In all walks of life, among the high and the low, in science, the greatest men have been those who have proven all things, have sought the truth, who have been guided by experience but have ever tried to serve in the future.

In the workaday world men of courage lead the way toward industrial freedom, although they may be far ahead of the rest off. Yet those who make the greatest progress are those who make sure they progress with safety. Those who are not a far cry to the day when toilers' ears were cut off to punish them for listening to the words of wisdom, when not so long since laborers were jailed for refusing to sell their labor at any price they would not have been possible had the victims of that day been free. Neither would not been prevalent had the ones unjustly treated not been afraid of—other men, men with more nerve, more moral courage it also more cruel natures.

In modern life the cowards do not ordinarily. They fear they will lose their jobs. Free men, men of action and men without fear, set a price on their labor commensurate with its value to human society, and generally get their price. Conscious of their worth, they demonstrate it by their self-respect, by their respect and admiration by their own self-respect. They compel acquiescence in their industrial demands by asking nothing that is not right, and by insisting—absolutely and unwaveringly insisting—on their rights to such work and such pay as they deserve, and such men only.

To enable courageous men to sell their labor at a fair price organization is necessary. System and plan are required, forces must be united, efforts must be formulated, confidence must be placed in one another, integrity must be established, and the movements of the many must be ingered to the common good. Labor unions make these things possible, because their foundation is the welfare of all, and not but to the buyer of labor. It is no more possible to free labor from bondage by mass action than in any other way, for in the end the right is bound to prevail.

Experience has shown for hundreds of years that the individual artisan can secure better reward by collective bargaining than by any other method hence the labor union. Experience has also shown that no man can take out of a union more than he may put in. Hence the necessity to regard the union de an instrument for the common good only, a means to an end, defense, a right of action which, helping the individual, maintains the standards of life for all concerned.

Organization is the way. It makes men free; it makes men free; it makes men courageous. When men are free, when men are fair, when men are courageous, they express their heart's desire, then and then only.

Let us hold up the banner of organization that it may be seen afar off, that we may all soon say with Lowell:

"I honor the man who is ready to sink
Half his present repute for the freedom to think,
And when he does think aright, be his cause just or weak,
Will sink t'other half for the freedom to speak;
Caring naught for what vengeance the mob has in store,
Let him sack be the upper ten thousand or lower."

—Charles Perry Taylor, secretary Washington State Federation of Labor.

Develop Union First—Then Make Demands

The trade union movement in growth is not unlike many other things and beings that grow. The tree or the plant which grows rapidly and matures quickly, without proper support into decay just as rapidly, while the sturdy oak, which grows slowly, lasts forever. The trade union that grows too rapidly often is unfitted for the obligations of mature life, and, like the mushroom growth, is short lived. It is with the trade union movement. The movement which grows slowly and acts conservatively according with economic influence endures forever, while the union of mushroom growth, in which the members have had little experience and which is lacking in proper leadership often makes mistakes that are fatal to its life. While this is regrettable, it is not to be wondered at. If the many unions now existing, and the millions of workers among so-called unskilled trades and trades that are partly so, could be established in making demands until they had first mastered the first rudiments of trade union ethics and self-government in maintaining a proper opportunity would be made in the long run. Some of the unions now being formed organize today and go on strike for an increase of wages tomorrow. Others spring up spontaneously and without any organization and go on strike for an increase of wages and shorter hours and form a union after they are on strike. Such efforts meet with varied and indifferent success. There is not much danger to the old, substantial trade unions of meeting with reverses of experience back of them, from a rapid influx, provided the present membership and officials will consent to take hold and guide the new recruits along the lines of trade unionism. They are first familiar with trade union principles, its hopes and aspirations, its powers, strength and limitations, and are not until they are beneficial or in a position to finance strikes.—Philadelphia News-Post.

VOLUNTARY ACTION NECESSARY.

The labor movement has had to contend with all of the problems attending democracy—with all of the mistakes that inevitably result from unrestricted freedom. Though freedom and democracy may result in friction, in the adoption of ill-advised methods and standards, it is better that the workers should have freedom even to make mistakes than that they should be under the domination and direction of any outside authority though all-wise and "infallible."—Ex.

Don't condemn the labor movement because you know of "objectionable features." Every man and every human institution has some imperfections.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

WHEN THE MASSES AWAKE.

If the masses of the people could realize the potency of organization on trade union lines; the influence it wields in the industrial field; the strength it imparts in the aspirations of the workers for better conditions; the opportunities it offers for education on economic and social problems, the prospects for the future would be most promising and the road to the goal be shortened by many years.—Ex.

Don't let so-called "independence" prevent you from being unselfish. No man is all dependent on someone or something. "No man stands alone." Get closer together.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.

WHAT UNIONISM MEANS

The masses are fast learning the lesson that trade union organization is the only agency upon which they can rely to better their economic condition and raise their standard of livelihood in society as it is constituted at the present time. The labor movement has unmistakably demonstrated to wage-earners in all callings and professions that organization means better pay, better wages, better jobs, and more comfortable homes; that it means more money in the bank at a time when it is needed by business men, and thus create a better business for the community in which they reside. Trades unionism has demonstrated that the organization of labor means employment for workers, and the upbuilding of the industrial affairs of the nation. This is a lesson that society as a whole is also beginning to learn, for there is no denying the fact that organized labor is viewed in a far different light by the general public than it was a few years ago, and more by the very principles that the unions persistently advocated many years back. There is therefore small wonder that one hears of the organization of labor unions in all sections of Canada and the United States, and the heavy increase in the membership of the older trades bodies. From the very nature of things if the unions are to have the opportunity for full development the making of late there can be no denying the fact that in the very near future the labor movement will have become the community.

To turn back this tide of beneficent effort is an impossibility, as each day sees it moving on with added momentum, and its power so augmented as time by influence every extending. For a hundred years every effort to arrest its progress has failed, and the time is now at hand when forward sweep may be retarded, only at last to see all barriers swept aside while the forces which oppose it are more accelerated power. The labor movement lives, and will continue to live, just so long as it battles for the betterment of the working class. Unionism and progress march hand in hand, and will succeed because the principles which it strives to attain, and means so much for the welfare and liberty of the race—Industrial Banner.

Unionism Defended.

"My interest in the labor question grows with the years," said Gladstone. "In history. I have traced the onward sweep of the industrial revolution, with its fierce forces, its steam and steam and electricity, giant machines of iron and steel, which have changed the face of nature and their whirl, and have seen it overthrow manhood, womanhood, childhood its mind and, gifts from. I have seen it bend the pliant backs of little children in filthy mines; I have seen it chain fellow-men to the wheels of its machines. I have seen it sever limbs, put out eyes, destroy reason, blast intelligence, and all learning, and spiritual enlargement, and seen it take life by the thousands. I have seen it spread its wings and fly over Peel, Oastler, Fielding, Ashley—appeal to the conscience of the world; not to speak by Pitt, Grey, Fox, Sheridan, or Richard Kingsley. I have seen the era of humanitarian legislation—factory legislation—enter. I have seen the rise and legalization of labor's own organization, the trade union, and I have seen and have rejoiced in it and its achievements. I find myself in substantial accord with the following purposes and many of its specific aims. 'I bid it God-speed in its work and pray that it may be wise, considerate and good-natured, for its own good and for that of the community."—Rev. Dr. Adderley, author of "Economic and political science, Richmond (Va.) College.

PROTESTS AGAINST INJUSTICE.

The trade union movement is a standing protest against commercial selfishness and greed. It is a standing protest against economic and social injustice. It is a defender of the weak against the strong. It invites all workers, both male and female, skilled and unskilled, to join hands with the men and women battling for a brighter future and a higher standard of civilization.—Ex.

The labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce.—Act of Congress, October 15, 1914.